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VAUXHALL  



HOME NEWS

Ian Botham elects trial on charge of assault

Ian Botham, the England cricket captain, elected at Scunthorpe Magistrates' Court, Humberside, yesterday to go for trial on a charge of assaulting a Royal Navy apprentice causing actual bodily harm near a Scunthorpe night club.

Joseph Patrick Neenan, aged 21, Scunthorpe United's goal-keeper, admitted the charge and was fined £100 with £100 costs. Mr Botham, who leaves with the England team for the West Indies today, did not appear, although he was jointly charged with Mr Neenan. Through Mr Ernest Lidster, his solicitor, he elected trial at Grimsby Crown Court. Mr Lidster said Mr Botham would deny the charge.

Commitment proceedings are expected to go ahead on April 29. Mr Botham and Mr Neenan were jointly charged with assaulting Steven Robert Isbister on December 23, occasioning him actual bodily harm. Mr Leslie Bell, for the prosecution, said Mr Isbister, aged 19, and a friend left Tiffany's night club in the early hours of the morning. Mr Isbister saw Mr Botham standing outside with Mr Neenan and asked him in a silly fashion: "Do you want my autograph?" There was a minor discussion and a little pushing and pulling. The prosecution view was that any intervention at that stage by Mr Neenan was in the role of a peacemaker. Mr Bell said Mr Isbister and his friend walked away but Mr Isbister was later stopped by Mr Botham in an alleyway. He added: "Botham took hold of the complainant and began to hit him. Then Neenan began to hit him as well. The complainant found himself on the ground."

TUC campaign will seek a £6,000m boost for economy

By David Felton, Labour Reporter

The trade union movement is planning a propaganda campaign over the next few months linked to a call for a £6,000m boost for the economy. Senior TUC leaders are completing the organizations' annual economic review, to be published early next month, which calls for big investment in manufacturing industry and public works based largely on North Sea oil and gas revenues.

The TUC will be seeking informal contacts with the Confederation of British Industry to find common ground for discussions with ministers under the auspices of the National Economic Development Council.

The TUC's alternative economic strategy will be tabled for discussion at the next meeting of the NEC on February 4, which will be chaired by Mrs Margaret Thatcher. Union leaders will be proposing a direction of funds from North Sea revenues and pension funds investment in manufacturing industry, probably through a newly created National Investment Bank.

Such a bank could call on funds of about £12,000m, union leaders believe, and would be responsible for investment into what would initially be labour-intensive projects, such as big construction works, as a means of reducing unemployment.

The £6,000m stimulus to the economy would also encompass changes in the taxation system, including a new method of indexation of personal allowances, and would provide extra money to the Manpower Services Commission to finance new training programmes and other measures aimed at reducing unemployment. Members of the TUC's economic committee yesterday completed arrangements for a week of action in April when there will be protests throughout Britain against unemployment.

Forecasts that Leeds City rates might increase by 25 per cent next financial year have brought a warning that such an increase would jeopardize more than 550 jobs in Leeds, where employment is running at 8.9 per cent and rising.

Mr J. Olav Arnold, president of the Leeds Chamber of Commerce and Industry, said in a letter to the council leader that his members were concerned about the impact of such an increase on manufacturing industry, which was constrained in passing on costs by the need to compete overseas and with imported goods made cheaper by the high value of sterling.

Rates are part of a general

How three authorities in the North are grappling with spending cuts

More job losses are feared if rates surge

From Ronald Kershaw, Leeds

upsurge in all kinds of overheads and the cumulative effect of rates, energy and public utility costs will certainly be to cause a further shedding of labour in the private sector.

A rate increase well above inflation "will inevitably cause some firms to close. The rate increase could be the last straw for a number of companies."

In Leeds in 1980-81 more than half of gross expenditure had gone on salaries and wages. It followed that the biggest opportunity of holding down the rate would be to keep within the 6 per cent guidelines for local authority pay increases.

While full-time employees fell by 175, part-time employees had risen by 588. The chamber was disturbed at the disparity between other local authorities

and Leeds, which appeared to employ more people on a full-time equivalent basis now than it did in September, 1979. Lancashire school cuts: In a £5m package of cuts, more than 1,000 teachers and other staff in Lancashire's schools and colleges will lose their jobs (Our Preston Correspondent writes).

For the first time teachers face compulsory redundancies. But Mr Andrew Collier, chief education officer of Lancashire, said he hoped that up to 400 teaching jobs would go voluntarily.

The other cuts include 176 care-taking, cleaning, catering, playing field and administrative staff; 180 secondary school teachers; 85 ancillary staff; 50 primary school teachers; 136

supply teachers and 84 further education staff. Bradford defiance: Bradford Council, which is Labour controlled, is to defy the Government's guidelines to cut its spending by £8.6m or 5.3 per cent in the next financial year. Labour councillors have decided that the overall cuts should not exceed 2 per cent.

Councillor Derek Smith, the council leader, said yesterday that it was not yet possible to indicate the rate increase. But documents produced at a press conference showed that a 2 per cent cut in spending would increase the Bradford rate for householders by 43 per cent because of reduced government grants. The levy would be 117.2p in the pound compared with 87.4p at present.

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Brickworks proposal is dropped

By Our Planning Reporter

The London Brick Company said yesterday it had abandoned plans for a £30m works at Stewarby, Bedfordshire, because of "impossible conditions" made by the county council.

Nearly one hundred old chimneys were to have been replaced by a single 400ft stack. But permission was subject to the installation of equipment to remove sulphur dioxide and fluorides from the waste gases.

The company said yesterday there was no process available that would remove all the pollutants.

Because of the council's attitude, the county would lose the benefit of cleaner works. It was suggested, however, that the company might apply to build new works in neighbouring Buckinghamshire or Northamptonshire.

Farmers maintain that pollution from the brickworks harms livestock and in a letter to *The Times* last year Lord Tavistock, who lives near by, claimed that a higher chimney would spread that pollution.

A Department of the Environment report said there was no evidence that present concentrations of sulphur dioxide and fluorides were harmful to human health but their effect on animals and crops was less clear.



Photograph by Bill Warburton

The Hampstead Garden Suburb Institute, north London, designed by Sir Edwin Lutyens.

Minister 'has no role' in building dispute

By John Young, Planning Reporter

Mr Michael Heseltine, Secretary of State for the Environment, has refused to intervene in a dispute over proposed extensions to the Hampstead Garden Suburb Institute, in north London.

The building was designed by Sir Edwin Lutyens, is listed grade 1 by the Department of the Environment, and is regarded as one of the most important examples of Edwardian architecture in Britain. It was one of Lutyens's last works before he left for India to supervise the building of New Delhi.

It was intended originally to have two wings, and would thus have occupied the whole of one side of the suburb's central square. But because of lack of funds the wings were never built.

In recent years the council of the institute, which was

established by Dame Henrietta Barnett as an educational and charitable trust, has insisted that it needs more room. The building is used as a school and for adult education classes.

Instead of following the original Lutyens plan, however, the council applied to build two modern extensions at right angles and to the rear of the existing building. Despite strong opposition by local residents, the Victorian Society, the Royal Fine Art Commission and Save Britain's Heritage, the application was passed by Barnett council last year.

The Royal Fine Art Commission has described the quality of the architecture revealed in the design for the extensions as "quite inadequate". Other critics have observed that, if it was thought inappropriate to emulate the Lutyens style, the extra accommodation could be found in a disused church near by.

Mr Michael Max, chairman of the institute council, who is also vice-chairman of Barnett planning committee, has accused opponents of the scheme of using criticism of the design to conceal their real motives.

In a letter to local residents who had asked him to call a public inquiry, Mr Heseltine points out that, since the extensions will not physically touch the present structure, listed building consent is not required.

"You will appreciate that, as I have no locus in this matter, it would be inappropriate for me to comment on the merits of the proposed development," he writes.

Objections are now pinning their faith on the New Hampstead Garden Suburb Trust, which has powers to refuse any development that it considers harmful to the character of the suburb.

IRA beset by differences over acts of terrorism

From Christopher Thomas, Belfast

The Provisional IRA appears to be undergoing a period of soul-searching about future direction and there are indications of differences between the Belfast and Dublin ends of the organization.

Some influential leaders of the IRA in Belfast are stronger political role, but it is believed that the Dublin leaders want acts of terrorism to retain a primary place in the campaign.

The exceptional level of accord that has been established between the British and the Irish Governments, coupled with their agreement jointly to consider new institutional arrangements between the United Kingdom and Ireland, has done much to convince even some of the most hardline Republicans that the continuing violence is serving no immediate purpose.

Moderate Roman Catholic politicians in Northern Ireland have begun to seize on the new Dublin-Westminster relationship as a demonstration of British willingness to approach the Irish question in a different and more enlightened manner.

The wrath of the Unionists has been aroused, but Mrs Margaret Thatcher has clearly become impatient at their refusal to accept powersharing, which more than any other issue killed the exhaustive attempt to revive a devolved Ulster parliament last year.

Senior members of the security forces remain convinced that the IRA is capable of mounting a high level of attacks, despite the capture of some key men in the past year and the increasingly successful operations by the police and the Army in the border areas both in Northern Ireland and the Republic.

For the past few months the IRA has chosen to reduce its activities, largely in order not to alienate public opinion during the hunger strike.

Mr Seamus Mallon, deputy leader of the Social Democratic and Labour Party, the main political voice of Catholics in Northern Ireland, yesterday called on the IRA to respond to the "deep longing" for an end to violence.

He told a press meeting in Armagh that it was time for the IRA to "grasp the political nettle" which it had avoided for so long. The old attitudes of the British Government to Ireland were crumbling. Policemen die in an Ulster police raid yesterday, six days after a gunman shot him in the head (the Press Association reports).

He was named by the Royal Ulster Constabulary as Mr Lindsay McDougall, aged 36, a part-time reservist from Knockva Park, Belfast, who was married and had three sons.

He and another policeman were checking a suspicious car last Friday night when a gunman crept up behind him and shot him.

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Sergeant breaks down again at murder trial

One of the two soldiers accused of murder broke down again at his trial at Belfast Crown Court yesterday. Staff Sergeant Stanley Hathaway, aged 36, was led weeping from the dock minutes before the case was due to restart.

He was ushered from the courtroom by prison officers, followed by his psychiatrist.

It was the second time he had broken down since the trial opened on Monday at the heavily guarded court in the Crumlin Road. Yesterday he was in the dock for six minutes.

He was sitting beside Sergeant John Byrne, his co-accused, waiting for Mr Justice MacDermott to arrive after a lunch-time recess, but he was clearly under considerable strain.

Sergeant Byrne and Sergeant Hathaway, aged 33, both former members of the Argyll and Sutherland Highlanders, have pleaded not guilty to murdering Mr Michael Neen, a farmer, and Mr Andrew Murray, a labourer, at Mr Neen's farm in Co. Fermanagh in October, 1972.

Mr Chestnut, from Aberdeen, has pleaded not guilty to murdering Mr Murray.

The trial had been adjourned in the morning after a brief hearing. It was later adjourned until today.

Handless body case jury is discharged

From Arthur Osman, Lancaster

Mr Justice Heilbrunn discharged a jury at Lancaster Crown Court yesterday within 24 hours of it being empanelled for what he called "technical legal reasons".

A second jury, which again consisted of seven men and five women, was sworn but was immediately sent from the court.

The case when it opens in full, is expected to last until April at least. Today, the sixth full working day of the hearing, further argument will continue and the judge is expected to rule on certain matters.

Mr Michael Maguire, QC, for the Crown, might then open the case in which five men are accused of the murder of a man whose handless body was found in a quarry, and they and six other defendants, including one woman, are accused of contraventions of the Misuse of Drugs Act.

A 1450 wheelchair, stolen two weeks ago from Michael Kelly, a disabled artist, was found yesterday in a reservoir near his home in Gledbelds Road, Stockbridge, near Sheffield.

The chair has helped him to win hundreds of gold and silver medals in the Paralympic Olympics. "I reckon repairs will cost about £150," he said.

Home Office order may allow taxi charge

By Frances Gibb

The Home Office is expected to announce in the next three months an order to allow taxi drivers to collect a fee on top of the fare when booked by a radio service, despite a High Court ruling on Tuesday that it is illegal for drivers to collect such a charge.

The Licensed Taxi Drivers' Association, which has 4,600 members, said yesterday that it had approached Home Office officials who had given "very sympathetic consideration" to making an order which allowed the drivers to collect the charge for the radio circuit.

Mr David Barnes, a spokesman for the association, said: "Since the ruling, we have told all 1,000 drivers on our London Wide radio circuit to stop collecting the booking fee. But we are confident that at or before the next fare increase in the late spring the Home Office will have issued a new order enabling drivers to do this."

Until the High Court ruling, the London Wide radio circuit, one of the three main radio circuits for licensed taxi drivers in London, was charging a booking fee of 30p in the week and 40p at weekends in addition to the metered fare.

Yesterday the Home Office said that there had been informal discussions with taxi associations on the booking fee in the past, but no ministerial decision had been possible while the law was unclear.

Now that a ruling had been made, the Home Secretary could consider the judgment of Lord Justice Donaldson and Mr Justice Forbes in the High Court were sympathetic to the reason for the charge, but said that it was illegal under the London Hackney Carriage Act, 1853 for a driver to demand or take more than the proper fare. Taxis were not affected.

Mr Harold Feigen, general secretary of the association, said that since the charge was brought in about seven years ago to defray the costs of radio equipment, there had been hardly a single complaint from the six million or so people who had booked a taxi through the circuit.

The appeal was brought by London Wide against a magistrates' court ruling about two years ago that the booking charge was illegal because it said it wanted to test the law on that point.

At the time of the earlier ruling, the two other large-scale circuits in the capital, Owner Drivers' Radio Taxi Service (All London Radio Taxis) and Radio Taxis (Southern), dropped the charge.

Mr Kenneth Barnes, complaints officer of the 1,000-member Owner Drivers, said that it had been operating without booking fee and could continue to do so. Mr Martin Rosenberg, of Radio Taxis, said the ruling was regrettable.

Hospital porter loses union support for action

By Nicholas Timmins

Support for Mr Conway Xavier, the dismissed deputy head porter at The Hospital for Sick Children, Great Ormond Street, London, crumbled yesterday when only 40 of the hospital's 280 ancillary staff attended a meeting to take a decision on industrial action.

Mr Xavier, aged 38, branch chairman of the National Union of Public Employees at the hospital, was dismissed last month for neglect of essential duties, unauthorised absence from work, and failure to behave with commitment to management. Mr Xavier denied the charges, but an appeal to the hospital's board of governors was dismissed on Tuesday night.

Mr Ian Barber, the union's area officer, said it was imprac-

tical to call for action after such a low turnout.

The union fears that the successful dismissal of Mr Xavier may encourage other hospital managements to attack hospital staff. It cites a memorandum from the Department of Health and Social Security last month to regional personnel officers pointing out that action could be taken against managers whose trade union activities conflict with their jobs.

Three other NUPE shop stewards at Great Ormond Street face disciplinary hearings today.

Mr Barber believed the hospital would try to introduce new work practices soon. "The union members here will have to learn the hard way," he said.

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WEST EUROPE



Mr. Dalsager: Dedicated to European ideal.

Mr Dalsager dedicated to Europe

Mr Poul Dalsager, aged 51, the Danish Minister of Agriculture and Fisheries, who has been named as Denmark's new EEC Commissioner to replace the late Mr Finn Gundersen, is a devoted European and Social Democrat of many years' standing. (Our Copenhagen correspondent writes).

It was Denmark's entry into the Community in 1973 which gave Mr Dalsager his chance to bring his ardent European beliefs into practice. A member of the Danish parliamentary committee on relations with the EEC from 1971 until membership in 1973, Mr Dalsager worked hard for Danish membership of the Community.

After Denmark's accession he became a Social Democratic member of the European Parliament, where he served from 1973 until 1974 and held the post of vice-president.

Mr Dalsager was first elected as a Social Democratic member of the Folketing (the Danish Parliament) in 1964, representing Hjoerring, his home town in north Jutland, a seat which he has held ever since.

He was Minister for Agriculture and Fisheries in various Social Democratic minority governments led by Mr Anker Joergensen, the Danish Prime Minister, in the latter half of the 1970s. He was Minister of Agriculture and Fisheries from 1975 until 1977. Agriculture Minister from 1977-1978, and regained both the Agriculture and Fisheries portfolios in 1979.

In 1978 he became leader of the Parliamentary Social Democratic Party.

Danes nominate their Agriculture Minister for Commission post

From Michael Horsby
Strasbourg, Jan 14

Mr Poul Dalsager, the Danish Minister of Agriculture, was today nominated by his Government to replace Mr Finn Gundersen, who died suddenly here yesterday, as his country's EEC Commissioner in Brussels.

The choice of Mr Dalsager reflects the Danes' strong desire to retain control of agriculture, which consumes some 70 per cent of the EEC budget and is of vital importance to the Danish economy. It is regarded as one of the key jobs in the Commission.

If he is given the agricultural portfolio, Mr Dalsager, aged 51, will be plunged at once into the preparation of the Commission's proposals on EEC farm prices, which have to be fixed each spring in negotiation with member states.

The permanent allocation of the agriculture and fisheries responsibilities previously exercised by Mr Gundersen is expected to be decided next week by the European Commission after Mr Dalsager's appointment has been formally endorsed by other member states.

In the meantime, it has been decided that Mr Gaston Thorn, the president of the Commission, should himself assume temporary responsibility for agriculture, and fisheries should be entrusted, again on an interim basis, to Mr George

Kontogeorgis, the new Greek Commissioner.

Mr Kontogeorgis had been due to take over fisheries from Mr Gundersen in due course anyway, and he seems likely to be confirmed permanently in the job next week by his fellow commissioners.

The job will be an important one because the Commission is expected later this month to resume its delicate mediating role in the negotiations between member states on a new fisheries policy, which broke down in December mainly because of differences between Britain and France.

As Denmark's Agriculture Minister and a frequent attendee at EEC agriculture ministers' meetings in Brussels, Mr Dalsager can hardly be accused of lack of experience or knowledge, the only ground on which the portfolio might reasonably be denied him.

If Mr Dalsager were to be challenged for the post, it is thought that two of the strongest candidates to take it would be Viscount Edmond Derington, the Belgian Commissioner, and Signor Lorenzo Natali, his Italian colleague.

However, it is thought that Mr Thorn will be anxious to avoid a general reshuffle of posts soon in his presidency. The simplest solution for him would be to let Mr Dalsager take over where Mr Gundersen left off.

EEC balm for the British

From David Wood
Strasbourg, Jan 14

With the six-monthly alternation among the Ten of the presidency of the Council of Ministers, Mrs Margaret Thatcher and the Foreign Office will carefully study one particular passage in the first statement of intent made to the European Parliament here today by Mr Christoph van der Klauw, the Dutch Foreign Minister, whom Lord Carrington will succeed as President on July 1.

She knows that at six-month intervals one country inherits the work of its alphabetic predecessor in the presidency.

Hence London's more than passing interest in Mr van der

Klauw's definition of the Dutch presidency's priorities: First, adjustments to the common agricultural policy and restructuring of Community expenditure—balm to the British Government; second, a coordinated economic policy to fight inflation and preserve jobs; third, international economic relations—multilateral and multilateral; fourth, the relations between Community institutions.

Mrs Thatcher is already preparing for the British presidency, out of a deep conviction that it will be a crucial challenge to get the Community on the move, not least to achieve a balance between CAP and other Community expenditure.

OVERSEAS



Charlene Taren tries to free herself after falling through ice on a park lake in Fort Collins, Colorado, while attempting to rescue her dog. Firemen rescued both dog and owner.

UN calls on S Africa for second thoughts

From Our Southern Africa Correspondent
Geneva, Jan 14

The failed United Nations conference on Namibia ended in Geneva today with an appeal by Mr Brian Urquhart, the senior United Nations official who chaired the meeting, to South Africa and the internal parties in Namibia (South West Africa) to reconsider their positions on the implementation of the proposed settlement plan for the territory.

Mr Urquhart said the United Nations would not relax its efforts to achieve an internationally acceptable settlement.

Mr Sam Nujoma, president of the South West Africa People's Organisation (Swapo), reaffirmed his organization's support for the United Nations settlement plan.

He called, however, for an intensification of the guerrilla war and for the introduction of comprehensive economic sanctions against South Africa.

The sanctions call was also supported by Mr Eddison Zvobgo, the Zimbabwe Minister of Local Government, who was speaking on behalf of the British, Benin, Nigeria and the Organisation of African Unity which attended the conference as observers.

Support for alliance: Mr R. F. Foreign Minister, expressed support of the stand taken by the Democratic Turnhalle Alliance at the Geneva talks in an airport press conference here today (Eric Marsden writes from Johannesburg).

Mr Mudge turns out to be the only winner in Geneva
Namibia failure deals blow to West

From Nicholas Ashford
Geneva, Jan 14

The Namibian settlement exercise is not dead, despite the failure of the conference. What was therefore still left open, Mr Richard

Luce, Minister of State at the Foreign Office, said shortly before leaving Geneva at the end of the United Nations conference on Namibia (South West Africa).

Mr Luce noted that the main protagonists—the South Africans, the territory's internal parties, and the South-West Africa People's Organisation (Swapo)—still claimed that they supported the United Nations settlement plan for the territory. What was therefore necessary, he said, was to reflect on "how best to move ahead from here."

But if the United Nations initiative is not actually dead, it has been dealt a stunning blow by the refusal of the South African-led delegation to agree to a firm date for a ceasefire in the guerrilla war waged by Swapo against South African troops in Northern Namibia.

The Western powers, the black African representatives, and the United Nations had all come to Geneva in the belief, based on assurances received from South Africa before the conference was announced, that substantial progress could be made towards the implementation of the United Nations settlement plan.

Yet the conference turned out to be merely an elaborate propaganda exercise to promote the South African position, backed up by demands that the United Nations must first demonstrate its impartiality before South Africa and the internal parties would even consider a ceasefire.

South Africa and the internal parties would even consider taking part in a United Nations supervised election.

From the point of view of the South African-led delegations the conference was a success, as the internal parties were able to present themselves in a United Nations forum (even though they were not recognised as such) without having to concede anything in return.

On the other hand, the conference has been an unmitigated disaster for the Western powers which have invested immense diplomatic effort during the past three years in an attempt to resolve the Namibian question. Their credibility is in tatters and they are now confronted with renewed calls at the United Nations for sanctions against South Africa—which was just what the settlement initiative was designed to prevent.

What went wrong? First, the determination of South Africa to promote the cause of the internal parties, particularly the Democratic Turnhalle Alliance, was underestimated. South Africa recognized that the alliance, with its present label of being a "swing party," stood little chance of winning an election against Swapo.

Mr Dirk Mudge, the Alliance's leader, admitted as much in private conversations with black African observers. He told one of them that he had no real quibble with either the United Nations plan or with the impartiality package which he was offered by the United Nations at the weekend, in an attempt to break the conference deadlock. He said he would need at least 18 months

to build up the alliance into a viable alternative to Swapo.

Second, not enough significance was attached to the importance Namibia plays in domestic South African politics. Mr Pieter Botha, the South African Prime Minister, is struggling to impose his leadership on a divided party. If he were seen to approve a settlement plan in Namibia which resulted in a Swapo victory, the pressures on him from his own right-wingers would become intolerable.

Some observers believe that Mr Botha is unlikely to approve the implementation of the United Nations plan for Namibia until there has been a general election in South Africa. At the moment, this is not due to take place until the second half of 1982.

A third factor influencing South Africa was its Government's belief that there will be a shift in American attitudes towards southern Africa once Mr Ronald Reagan takes over as President next week.

Finally, the South Africans—that the pressures on them to settle in Namibia were not particularly great. As a military level, a series of big cross-border raids against Swapo in Angola last year has probably given South Africa the initiative for the time being.

Diplomatically, South Africa believes it has called the West's bluff over sanctions. It believes that countries like Britain and the United States, will try at almost any cost to avoid becoming involved in any punitive moves against South Africa's presently booming economy.

Leading article, page 15

Eight Corsicans fail to answer kidnap charge

From Ian Murray
Paris, Jan 14

Only nine of the 17 Corsican autonomists facing kidnapping charges appeared when their case opened here before the Court of State Security this afternoon.

Of the missing eight, two had failed to surrender to bail. Two held in prison had refused to leave their cells, and four, who have been on hunger strike in prison for more than nine weeks, were judged to be medically unfit to travel to the court. Two others, who had been on hunger strike all that time, but who were allowed to attend the court, appeared last. The other defendants and part of the audience rose at a sign of respect.

They were obviously very weak and the court was surprised by the defence, whether it really believed they were in a state to defend themselves with sufficient force. M. Claude Allaer, the court president, promised that he would respect the code of men's honour in deciding on their fitness.

After formal questioning to

establish identities, the hearing was adjourned for legal argument on the attitude which the court should take about the defendants who were not present.

The lawyer for the two who had not surrendered to bail, protesting a medical certificate saying they were unfit to travel from Corsica. Lawyers for the two who had refused to leave their cells argued that force should not be used against them. Lawyers for the four judged medically unfit to travel argued that the ethics of trying their clients in their absence.

In Ajaccio today several thousand people joined a demonstration in support of the men on trial.

A young woman was in hospital in Ajaccio-Provence today with head injuries received in one of three bomb attacks made in the town during the night. Responsibility for the bombing, which caused nearly a million francs (about £100,000) damage, was later claimed by the militant Corsican National Liberation Front.

Terrorists say judge to be freed

From John Earle
Rome, Jan 14

The Red Brigades today announced that they were freeing Judge Giovanni D'Urso, kidnapped by them in Rome on December 12, as they had obtained their objective.

The announcement came near the end of a four-page leaflet, "communiqué number 10", found at lunchtime in a rubbish bin in front of the Rome Opera House. Soon afterwards rumours swept Rome that he had been released at a building site on the western outskirts of the city and taken to a hospital. This was denied by the Government.

Signor Arnaldo Forlani, the Prime Minister, expressed uncertainty this evening whether the communiqué announcing that Dr D'Urso would be freed was genuine. "We hope, however, that it will be confirmed by fact," he told Parliament. Agency France-Press reports.

The leaflet said "The Hangman D'Urso" would be let go, shortly before reiterating the Red Brigades' slogan: "Destruction of all prison and liberation of all proletarian prisoners."

The "political and material objectives, set in the campaign of attack initiated with D'Urso, have been fully achieved."

"The world must know that the Red Brigades have obtained a great victory. In consideration of all that, proletarian justice: contents to an act of solidarity. The sentence of death is suspended and the prisoner D'Urso is being set free."

The Red Brigades communiqué came after a letter was found yesterday from the judge, who appealed for the press to heed the Red Brigades' demands for the views of their prisoners in maximum-security jails to be published in the national press.

Two newspapers, *Il Messaggero* and *Il Secolo XIX*, have agreed to publish the texts of proclamations from inmates in jails of Rome, in Apulia and Palmi in Calabria.

Leading article, page 15

French agree timetable for presidential elections

From Our Own Correspondent
Paris, Jan 14

The timetable for the presidential elections was agreed by the Cabinet today. All candidates who wish to stand will have to be declared by April 7 and approved by April 10.

They are to take part in the first round on April 26. The second and final round will be on May 10.

In a statement to mark the approval of the timetable, President Giscard d'Estaing said that "the approach of the presidential election is sometimes presented or felt as a test. I affirm that it is, on the contrary, a chance for France."

"It is a chance for the democratic life of France since it underlines the fact that the French people are going to exercise that too rare privilege in the world of designating themselves, in complete freedom, the head of state."

"It is a chance for the

future of France, since in a world troubled by so serious economic difficulties and in which many questions have to be asked, the French people are going to be able to make on their own the essential choice which will determine the policies to come."

"That is why I hope that everything will be done to clarify the facts of the choice of the French and to give to the debate, by its freedom, its dignity and its coherence, an exemplary character."

The President has yet to declare himself as a candidate for a second term in office, resolutely saying that, from the moment he was elected, he would cease to be able to function as head of state.

In the latest opinion poll published by Paris-Match today the President and M. Francois Mitterrand, the Socialist leader, are found to be neck and neck with 50 per cent support each.

Barre remark harms Strasbourg hopes

From Our Own Correspondent
Strasbourg, Jan 14

France's hopes of retaining Strasbourg as the main site of the European Parliament may have been seriously damaged by contemptuous remarks directed at the Parliament by M Raymond Barre, the French Prime Minister.

He was quoted by Agency France-Press, the French news agency, as having declared that "what European parliamentarians say is of no interest to the French Government." The remark was made in reference to the dispute between France and the European Parliament over the legality of the EEC budget adopted last December.

There were angry reactions today from members of the Parliament. Mr James Scott-

Hopkins, leader of the Conservative group, told French Assembly that since French Prime Minister considered the European Parliament's opinion to be of no interest, it was "obvious" that he was permanently a country where the Parliament goes.

A separate statement by West German members of the Parliament's Socialist group described Mr Barre's comments as "a slap in the face for the citizens of Europe." The Parliament should now ask itself whether it wanted to be a country whose Government takes not the slightest interest in it.

The German MEPs appealed to their own Government, which is also in danger of losing the European Parliament over the legality of the budget, not to

follow in the wake of what has now been revealed as an openly anti-European policy (by France).

They said that Mr Barre's remarks called in question France's whole attitude to Europe. France was behaving like a taxpayer who refuses to pay his taxes simply because he does not agree with some aspect of his Government's policy, they added.

Mme Simone Veil, the president of the European Parliament, said she was surprised by Mr Barre's remarks, but she declined to comment further. Mrs Veil has been strongly criticised in France for declaring the budget adopted last month.

Norwegian police evict power site protesters

From Karen Sorenson
Oslo, Norway, Jan 14

Six hundred Norwegian police today forcibly removed 153 demonstrators from the banks of the Alta river in the far north of the country, leaving nearly 300 still there.

Today's police action is the culmination of a 10-year debate in Norway over who owns and controls the land, water and other resources in an area which the indigenous people of Scandinavia, the Sami, claim as their own.

The Norwegian Government intends to develop a hydro-electric scheme on the Alta river but the Sami object. Not only would such a project destroy the livelihoods of the reindeer-herding and fishing farmer, they claim, but also the Sami demand in principle to make the decision in their traditional area.

The Norwegian Sami have been joined by Sami from both Sweden and Finland, as well as by hundreds of Norwegians. In spite of temperatures ranging into the minus-30°C during the past 10 days, hundreds of people have gathered at Stilla, the site where construction was to begin today.

Yesterday and today, there have been less demonstrations throughout Scandinavia against the Norwegian Government's northern and Sami policies.

South Africa to fingerprint all its citizens

From Our Correspondent
Johannesburg, Jan 14

South Africa is to introduce legislation to provide a uniform identity document with the bearer's fingerprints for all its citizens. Meanwhile applicants for renewal of existing documents, endorsements or new documents will be required to have fingerprints taken.

Announcing the Bill in Cape Town today, Mr Chris Heunis, Minister of Internal Affairs, said fingerprinting had been made necessary by the "total onslaught" on the republic.

The measure would prevent forgery of identity documents and limit "the increasing attempts to infiltrate strategic installations and national key positions with a view to espionage and/or sabotage."

The legislation would not affect the existing "pass" law for blacks. The fingerprint register would be kept by the Internal Affairs Ministry and the Criminal Bureau would not have access.

Journalists attack ban on black newspapers

From Eric Marsden
Johannesburg, Jan 14

South African journalists on press freedom in South Africa could result in an escalating conflict between blacks and whites, journalists said today.

In a memorandum to the Steyn Commission of Inquiry into the Press, which resumed its sittings in Johannesburg, the South African Society of Journalists criticised the banning of black newspapers and silencing of black journalists.

The society, which has a majority of white members, said that dissatisfied blacks were becoming more insistent that their voices must be heard. This was shown by the number of strikes and disturbances, and the number of blacks who had left the country for "military training" since 1976.

Pleading for continued two-way communication between blacks and whites, the memorandum said: "If we shut off the tap of communication in one direction, conflict will escalate, not diminish."

South Africa had an inadequate force of black journalists to express their community's aspirations and frustrations. There was a white journalist for every 1,171 white South Africans, but there was only one black journalist for 51,961 blacks. This was blamed on inadequate education and training.

Banning black newspapers or reporting of speeches by leaders would not make black feelings go away.

The memorandum said that unless black opinion was freely expressed the whole South African community would not be able to identify and respond to the needs and demands of the times.

It cited as justification the reaction of Rhodesian whites to the election victory of Mr Robert Mugabe, the Prime Minister of Zimbabwe, which had not been foreseen by the white community and military intelligence because of restrictions on a free flow of information.

New style of Mugabe leadership faces test

From Stephen Taylor
Salisbury, Jan 14

A meeting scheduled to be held here on Saturday will resolve whether Mr Robert Mugabe, Zimbabwe's Prime Minister, has finally stamped his authority on the country's coalition Government and gained for his party control of all main offices of power.

The meeting of the Central Committee of the minority Patriotic Front party, will consider a response to the Cabinet reshuffle announced last week by Mr Mugabe that moved Mr Joshua Nkomo, the party's leader, from the key post of Minister of Home Affairs, offering the party the sweetener of an additional Cabinet seat, and a deputy ministry. If Mr Nkomo and the Central Committee reject the Cabinet package it would plunge Zimbabwe into a political crisis with perilous implications.

The reshuffle, the first since independence last year, marked the emergence of the new style of leadership by Mr Mugabe. In dismissing Mr Edgar Tekere, the temperate former Minister of Manpower, Planning and Development, and demoting Mr Nkomo, his main political rival, Mr Mugabe chose to govern with boldness where previously he had opted for caution.

The risks were only too apparent. Mr Tekere is Secretary-General of Mr Mugabe's Zanu (PF) party and has wide support in the rank and file. Many observers believed given his delicate handling of contentious matters in the past—that Mr Mugabe would not dare to move against him after he was acquitted of the murder of a farmer last month.

The decision to deprive Mr Nkomo of his control of the police and the Ministry of Public Service was potentially even more dangerous. There have been numerous incidents involving the estimated 35,000 Zanu guerrillas loyal to Mr Mugabe and the 20,000 Zipra force which follows Mr Nkomo.

The anger felt by Zipra over the latest treatment of Mr Nkomo was indicated earlier this week by shooting incidents at Chitungwiza, near Salisbury, in which seven people were injured. In one incident a grenade was thrown at an Army patrol.

The reshuffle was also received with bitter resentment by Patriotic Front officials. Mr Mugabe was accused of having once perceived as the country's most important nationalist leader have been political rivals since the 1960s but Mr Mugabe's ascendancy has been established in the past year and Mr Nkomo's aides believe that Mr Mugabe is now using his position to humiliate their leader.

An outraged Mr Nkomo told the press: "I do not see any way to accepting this."

Yet there are indications despite the rhetoric that Mr Mugabe has gambled successfully. Mr Tekere has apparently gone quietly and is even said to be pleased that he no longer carries the responsibility of ministerial office.

Informed sources believe that Mr Nkomo, having an adequate power base and external support, will swallow his pride and accept the Cabinet package. They believe that, while he still hopes for power and prestige, he will not jeopardize the fruits of the struggle for the people by withdrawing from the coalition.

Front victory: The Rhodesian Front candidate last night won a narrow election victory over his independent opponent in a white by-election for the constituency of Highlands in Salisbury.

Mr James Thross won 1,497 votes against 1,257 registered for Dr Timothy Stamps—a margin of only 240 votes. The election was addressed by Mr Ian Smith, President of the Rhodesian Front and former Prime Minister.

Sotheby's deny Russian accusations of dishonesty over sale of valuable sixteenth-century icon

From Michael Binyon
Moscow, Jan 14

A Soviet newspaper today accused Sotheby's of dishonesty over the sale of a valuable Russian icon stolen from its Moscow owner over five years ago.

Taking up a case that had highlighted the Russians' concern over the smuggling to the West of icons and their subsequent sale by galleries and auction houses, the weekly newspaper *Literaturnaya Gazeta* today published an interview by its London correspondent with a member of Sotheby's concerning the sale in 1979 of a sixteenth-century processional icon.

The paper said the double-sided icon, "The Virgin and Nikolai the Miracle-Worker" was stolen from the home of Mr M. P. Kudryavtsev. The matter was referred to Interpol.

Investigations led no where until Mr Kudryavtsev saw a copy of a Sotheby's catalogue with a photograph of the icon. He sent a Telex to the auction house and found that the icon had already been sold for £25,000. His wife told the Soviet Embassy in London that they were astonished to learn that Sotheby's had sold the icon instead of informing the embassy of the reappearance of such a famous masterpiece.

The paper's correspondent said he had asked Mr John Stuart, head of the firm's icon section, whether he was not also surprised, and was told Sotheby's had not known the icon had been stolen and that the Telex had arrived a year after the sale.

But the paper said the photograph of the icon had appeared in the catalogue for October-November, 1979, and it was sold in December that year.

The correspondent said he had asked Mr Stuart on what basis he had given a description of the icon, and was told the information had come from other catalogues. But, he objected, was it not clearly stated in those other catalogues that the icon was owned by Mr Kudryavtsev and had he not lent it several times for international exhibitions? Why had Mr Stuart not noticed that the vendor was not the same as the owner?

Mr Stuart was reported as replying that there was no indication in any book that the icon had been stolen. He refused to say who had brought in the work for auction on the ground that Sotheby's did not disclose the names of its clients.

Literaturnaya Gazeta said the interview ended with a suggestion that the correspondent talk to Sotheby's lawyer, but he declined as the matter was already being taken up officially by the Soviet Embassy in London.

"I am interested in the principles governing the conduct of the 'great British institution', the paper's correspondent wrote, 'the morality enforced in hundreds of Sotheby's offices by uniformed guards. In the old days this morality was more simply indicated: With a black pirate's flag.'

"I do not know if the suspected auction house has a motto. If not, I would like to suggest a good English proverb: Dirty hands are often hidden in white gloves."

London reply: Sotheby's in London confirmed yesterday that they had received a Telex on December 10, 1980, from Moscow signed by Mr Kudryavtsev. It alleged that an icon about to be sold by their auction house had been stolen from his flat and requested the cancellation of the sale. Mr Stuart Room Correspondent writes.

Sotheby's had searched their records and found that the icon referred to had, in fact, been included in an auction on December 3, 1979. The auction house had telephoned Moscow with this information.

At the time of the 1979 sale, Sotheby's had accorded the icon two full pages of detailed cataloguing, referring to all the exhibition catalogues and publications in which it was discussed. The catalogue also illustrated both sides of the icon in colour.

Mr Stuart told *The Times* that the time of the 1979 sale that the auction house was satisfied that it had been consigned to them for sale by its legitimate owner. It had not come directly from Russia and the owner was not English.

He pointed out that most icons had been stolen at some stage in their life since they had belonged to the church community. Most Russian churches were closed and the icons were rotting on the walls.

Mr Stuart told me yesterday he had deliberately left Mr Kudryavtsev name out of the 1979 catalogue for fear of embarrassing him.

It is well known in British art circles that many icons were smuggled out of Russia during the 1960s and 1970s with the active connivance of dealers and auction houses in the West. They are believed to have been brought out by diplomats.

Smuggling is not considered particularly unethical in the art trade, whereas theft is taken seriously. Mr Stuart told me yesterday he keeps a file on icons known to be stolen and has been instrumental in the past in returning works to their true owners.

None of the icons stolen from Mr Kudryavtsev are on his file, since their theft had not been reported to him. He added that he would like more cooperation from Moscow.

OVERSEAS

Washington cites Nicaraguan aid to Salvador rebels for decision to resume military aid

Washington, Jan 14.—The United States will resume military assistance to El Salvador, the State Department announced today—thus ending its ban on aid to the Central American country announced early last month.

The aid programme had been discontinued after four American citizens were murdered in El Salvador, amid suspicion of complicity by government officials.

Today, an official communiqué here justified the resumption by pointing to the rebel military offensive launched last week in El Salvador. Captured documents and weapons had confirmed, the communiqué said, "that the guerrillas have received a substantial supply of arms from abroad", thus constituting a threat to the El Salvador government.

Today Mr Robert White, the United States Ambassador to El Salvador, backed this allegation. He said that a group of anti-government guerrillas had landed in the country from Nicaragua. This had altered the nature of the insurgency movement in El Salvador, he said. He said that the guerrillas had landed by boat yesterday at an isolated beach near the Nicaraguan border, but were forced to disperse after heavy fighting.

Mr White said: "I believe the report that a group of about 100 men landed from Nicaragua... This clearly changes the nature of the insurgency movement here, making it clear that it depends on outside sources."

A spokesman at the Nicaraguan Embassy in San Salvador denied the report—Reuters and Agence France-Press.

Guerrilla appeal: The seven-member political and diplomatic commission, established by forces trying to overthrow the El Salvador Government, today appealed to outside forces not to intervene in their country's affairs (Stephen Downer writes from Mexico City).

Announcing the start of an international initiative to explain why it wants to oust the authorities ruling El Salvador, the commission said: "We appeal to all the democratic and progressive forces of the world, and especially those on the American continent, to raise a barrier to stop all foreign intervention."

The commission members told a press conference here that they were particularly fearful that the governments of the United States, Guatemala and Honduras might send troops into El Salvador, thus turning it into "another Vietnam."

Señor Mario Aguinda Carranza, an accountant and journalist, added, however: "We have the resources and the capacity to combat the arrival of foreign troops in El Salvador."

The commission is formed by the Farabundo Martí National Liberation Front, an organization embracing all of El Salvador's several thousand left-wing guerrillas, and the Revolutionary Democratic Front, made up of a score of political, academic and labour groups opposed to the American-backed El Salvador Government, led by President Jose Napoleon Duarte.

Señorita Ana Martínez, another commission member, who is also a guerrilla commander, said: "It has been clearly shown over the past few days that the Government can no longer continue to govern in El Salvador. Everyday it becomes more and more isolated."

The commission denied that soldiers from Cuba and Nicaragua were fighting alongside the guerrillas.

Red Cross says 10,000 children have lost parents

Orphanages fill as war goes on

From Stephen Downer
San Salvador, Jan 14

"Come and tell these people who murdered your Mum and Dad", the lay religious worker urged the six-year-old girl. "The National Guard did," the child replied to the brutally phrased question. No proof was offered.

A few minutes into a stuttering, tear-filled explanation, the little girl, her dark hair tied into a pony tail by a strip of plastic from a sliced bread bag, broke down completely.

She took the hand of her younger sister, who had been standing, wide-eyed, by her side and the pair of them walked away to look for their two-year-old brother.

International Red Cross officials say about 90,000 people have been turned into refugees by the fighting between Government forces and left-wing guerrillas raging in the mountains of El Salvador since September and which this week spread to many other parts of the Central American republic. They estimate that 10,000 children have been orphaned.

The mountains run along much of the border between El Salvador and Honduras, through such departments as Cabanas, La Unión, Chalatenango, Morazan and San Miguel, where the six-year-old girl, her sister and brother had been taken in by a Roman Catholic orphanage.

Between 3,000 and 5,000 guerrillas are believed to be operating in the region.

In three filthy stalls, of what was once a stable in San Miguel, capital of the namesake department, the 42 members of five families live.

"There was fighting every night", said a farm worker from a village called Corinto, while smoke curled out of a crude brick fireplace and blackened the heavily soiled walls such as this.

"Who was I most afraid of, the guerrillas or the army, I was afraid of whoever tried to kill me."

Catherine Peduzzi, a Swiss delegate of the International Committee of the Red Cross, said: "There are thousands of people fleeing the violence and many of them are children who have been orphaned. Many of these children are sick."

"The most common illnesses are colds because they have so little clothing. They are suffering from malnutrition. They have lice on their heads and sores on their skin because they wash in rivers which have been contaminated by the corpses thrown into them."

Killing has become almost a part of life. On the road to San Miguel a crowd gawked at the foul-smelling bodies of three men lying under a bridge. Apparently guerrillas, they had died in a gun battle with the National Guard 16 hours before.

Before a corpse can be removed, a judge has to be called to any scene of violence. In this case the judge had not been found.

A man had been listening to the six-year-old girl's explanation of how her parents had died, then had walked away.

As the girl and her sister found their brother, his stomach swollen by hunger and worms, the religious worker lowered her voice and said: "I had to be careful. That man works for the Government. I couldn't say how things really are. But they're bad, really bad."



President-elect Reagan's \$1.9m home at Pacific Palisades, to be sold for security reasons.

Reagans' home up for sale

From Ivor Davis
Los Angeles, Jan 14

The quiet community of Pacific Palisades will not become the site of the new western White House. This becomes apparent with the news that President-elect Ronald Reagan has placed his five-bedroom house on the market for \$1.9m (£813,356).

Mr James Wix, manager of Coldwell Banker's local real estate office, today confirmed that Mr Reagan is selling the house that has been his residence since it was built in 1956.

There are suggestions that the secret service told the President-elect that the house, situated in a secluded but pleasant neighbourhood next to the Pacific Ocean, was unsuitable from a security point of view.

Much easier to guard is the Reagans' 688-acre Rancho del Cielo about 150 miles north of Los Angeles, near Santa Barbara. The Reagans bought the ranch in 1977.

The Reagan home up for sale has 4,764 sq ft and a swimming pool, and is described by the property company as "located

on a wooded hillside and commanding a sweeping view of the Pacific Ocean. It is tucked away from the road and can be reached only by travelling along a winding driveway."

The Reagans paid about a \$100,000 to have the house built in 1956, and in 1976 during Mr Reagan's first presidential campaign a disclosure statement indicated the net value of the home as \$213,000, less the unpublished mortgage balance.

A Reagan aide confirmed there were security problems with the house, adding "it's a very small home, hard to ensure privacy, and the Governor felt it would be disturbing to the neighbours."

Shah's assets seized in Switzerland

From Dossa Trevisan
Zurich, Jan 14

The regional prosecutor's office here has confirmed a report by the Iranian Central Bank today that it has confiscated assets of the late Shah and his family in Switzerland, including his villa in the St Moritz ski resort.

The confirmation follows a report by the Iranian Central Bank earlier today that 14 seizure orders had been issued on the basis of documents obtained by the bank last year.

The announcement was made in Tehran by Mr Ali Raza Nobari, the bank's governor-general, and was carried by the official Paris news agency.

Mr Nobari attributed the "success" of the seizures to the efforts of two Swiss lawyers representing the Iranian authorities. Mr Christian Grobet and Mr Erich Diefenbacher. Mr Diefenbacher had no comment to make—Agence France-Press.

Most foreign military observers agree this is a routine visit, but within the Polish context it is assuming importance as a demonstration of Soviet support for the Polish leadership, as well as of the Soviet military presence, which is a constant reminder that there are limits which cannot be overstepped.

The visit coincides with signs that the Government is taking a tougher stand towards trade union demands. A two-hour strike was called in Poznan today in which a total of 60,000 workers are said to have taken part. The strike was in support of the farmers' demands for the registration of their Rural Solidarity union as well as in protest at the Government's refusal to send negotiators to talk to the local union leaders.

French invitation: France's largest trade union organization, the Communist-led CGT, has invited Mr Walésa to visit France at the end of March.

Kulikov visit underlines presence of Russians

From Dossa Trevisan
Warsaw, Jan 14

Speculation has been aroused by a visit to Warsaw of Marshal Viktor Kulikov, the Soviet commander-in-chief of the Warsaw Pact forces. On his arrival yesterday he conferred with Mr Stanislaw Kania, the Communist Party leader, and Mr Jozef Pinkowski, the Prime Minister.

Marshal Kulikov makes regular visits to East European capitals and was recently in Budapest and in Sofia. His meeting with the Polish leaders was reported on Polish television. A statement later said that the talks were conducted in a friendly and cordial atmosphere and were also attended by General Wojciech Jaruzelski, the Polish Minister of Defence, and other military figures.

Most foreign military observers agree this is a routine visit, but within the Polish context it is assuming importance as a demonstration of Soviet support for the Polish leadership, as well as of the Soviet military presence, which is a constant reminder that there are limits which cannot be overstepped.

Sweets oust nuts as White House obsession

From Our Correspondent
Los Angeles, Jan 14

John Kennedy loved Cuban cigars, Richard Nixon's particular passion was meatloaf and ketchup, and surprisingly Jimmy Carter favoured peanuts. Ronald Reagan's secret weapon during difficult days at the White House will be jellybeans.

Mr Reagan says he will be fuelled by a constant supply of jellybeans when he becomes the fortieth President of the United States later this month.

This week he travels to Washington to prepare for his lavish inauguration and not far behind him will be 7,000lb of his favourite sweets shipped from a Californian company to the White House.

Washington, it appears, will soon be awash with millions of exotically flavoured beans as Mr Reagan makes this candy his official sweetmeat.

At an annual farewell ceremony at Los Angeles city hall yesterday the President-elect was given the red carpet treatment as well as a huge jar of jellybeans by city officials.

Mr Reagan's reputation as a "sweet tooth" is well known and he drew laughs when he said that as Governor of California he would pass his jar of jellybeans round the room during victorious arguments. He noted: "You can tell a lot about a fellow's character, if he just picks out one colour or grabs a handful of the beans."

The former governor has been munching jellybeans ever since he gave up smoking 20 years ago. He once wrote to Herman Goelitz, Inc, the sweet manufacturers: "We can hardly start a meeting or make a decision without passing around a jar of jellybeans. Thanks for helping keep state government running smoothly."

The Oakland factory which has been supplying Mr Reagan with beans for 13 years has been flooded with orders since his addiction became known.

Haig warning over Angola

From Our Own Correspondent
Washington, Jan 14

Mr Alexander Haig, Mr Ronald Reagan's nominee for Secretary of State, said today America would not recognize Angola while up to 20,000 Cuban troops remained there.

But if the Soviet-backed Government in Luanda had a change of heart about the Cuban troops, the situation would be "entirely different" for the United States, Mr Haig told senators who are looking into his suitability as Secretary of State.

What the new Administration was interested in was "results", not some sterile formula for resolving the current diplomatic impasse between the United States and Angola.

Mr Haig, who has been testifying before the Senate foreign relations committee since Friday, was attending the final session of his confirmation hearing today. A vote is expected tomorrow.

During today's session, his testimony concentrated almost entirely on foreign affairs. Yesterday his role in the Watergate era came under close scrutiny.

Trickster steals Rolls

New Orleans, Jan 14.—A thief pretending to be a prospective buyer stole a Rolls-Royce worth \$27,000 (£11,550). He left a seven-year-old jeep behind, but that turned out to be stolen too.

11 US airmen die

Ramstein, West Germany, Jan 14.—Eleven United States Air Force personnel died in air crashes in West Germany and Spain, when a C-130 Hercules transport crashed near here.

Women shoot back

Berne, Jan 14.—A company of Swiss soldiers which used pictures of nude women in target practice is being sued by a women's rights group. The complaint will go before Bern's Supreme Court in the next few weeks.

Ghana train derailed

Accra, Jan 14.—At least 21 people were killed and 200 injured when the Accra to Kumasi express was derailed north of the Ghanaian capital.

THE KINGDOM OF SAUDI ARABIA, HEADQUARTERS NATIONAL GUARD, RIYADH.

ADVERTISEMENT FOR COMPETITIVE TENDERS

The Saudi Arabian National Guard wishes to carry out the first stage of its military housing project in Khashma-al-Aan area, Riyadh.

This stage includes the construction of housing units complete with all their requirements of furniture and furnishings and all the necessary facilities and general services on a "turn-key" basis, in accordance with the conditions and specifications prepared for the project in both Arabic and English languages. In view of the size and importance of the project and the wish for its speedy execution, the Saudi Arabian National Guard stipulates that the firms bidding for it should have at least the minimum capabilities shown below:

- They should be general contractors. As for the Saudi firms they should be classified in the building works register.
- They should have carried out, inside or outside the Kingdom, similar projects. They should have carried out at least one similar project for a minimum value of SR 400,000,000 (Saudi Riyals four hundred million).
- They should provide a list of their administrative and technical employees who must be appropriate to the size of the project.

- They should provide a statement of their present financial position, showing their ability to execute this work. (The statement must include the annual budget for the last five years, the size of their annual works and their capital.)
- They must provide a list of their works over the last five years.

A group of firms specialised in various works of the project to the maximum of four firms, can form a consortium, to meet all the conditions specified above and submit their joint venture offer.

Meanwhile, the Saudi Arabian National Guard has the right to require the formation of a consortium from the best bidding firms if this is found to achieve the interests of the project.

The local, mixed or foreign firms who wish to bid for this project, can obtain the conditions and specifications file from the "General Directorate for Housing", Technical Department, Saudi Arabian National Guard, against SR 100,000 (Saudi Riyals one hundred thousand).

The conditions and specifications file will only be

sold to the firms which can prove, by certified documents, that they can meet the qualifications defined in this advertisement. Local and mixed firms, must have their lists and documents certified by the Ministry of Commerce. Foreign firms must have their documents certified by the authorities concerned in their own countries, and by the Saudi Arabian consulate there.

The regulations of the Kingdom of Saudi Arabia prohibit any mediators or middlemen in the execution of their projects. The Saudi Arabian National Guard emphasises the rejection of any mediation or brokerage or any middlemen or brokers of any type. The Saudi Arabian National Guard will immediately reject any offer if a broker or middleman is found to be involved.

The quotations must be presented in sealed envelopes to the "General Directorate for Housing", Technical Department, Saudi Arabian National Guard, Riyadh, not later than the end of the working hours of Saturday, 1st Jumada al-Oula 1401, corresponding to 7th March 1981. Envelopes will be opened next day, Sunday, 2nd Jumada al-Oula 1401, corresponding to 8th March 1981.

May God lead for success

nesty

Stuart told me that he had deliberately put yartsev name in catalogue for fast selling him.

PARLIAMENT, January 14, 1981

New legal framework for education of handicapped children

House of Lords

The success of the International Year of the Disabled Person depended on the willingness of individuals to participate nationally and locally. Lady Mather of Eton (Lab) said:

She was opening a debate calling attention to the International Year of the Disabled Person for education of handicapped children as outlined in the Government White Paper *Special Needs in Education*.

She said it should be remembered that a disabled person was an individual with different needs and aspirations. Many people did not understand disabled people and they had never come into contact with them. Some found it difficult to understand and others who would like to help did not know how to start.

It was 10 years since the passing of the Chronically Sick and Disabled Persons Act. During those 10 years much had been done but not all had been helpful. The abuse of the orange badge driving licence had not helped disabled people.

Lady Young, Minister of State for Education and Science, said that the Government had expressed its support for the International Year of the Disabled. She saw this year as a highlight in continuing the process of increasing participation and integration of disabled people.

The Government intended to introduce legislation shortly in this session to reform the framework within which special education was provided. The legislation would embody all the major changes set out in the White Paper on special needs in education.

One of the main requirements was that disabled people should be consulted over educational provision to be made for their handicapped children, but it could not be done without the help of people with as much understanding as people would like.

Like most people who cared about the handicapped, she wished that more resources were available for special education, but it was a policy of despair to say that nothing could be done without more resources. There was scope for some redeployment of the existing resources within a new special framework.

Over the next five years, the total school population would fall dramatically. That trend must be reflected in the number of children with special educational needs which would ease the introduction of new measures.

The Bill would introduce a new legal framework which would mean a new concept of special educational need embracing a wider group of children, and would include the provision of a multi-professional assessment of educational needs.

New arrangements for parental involvement in the process of assessment should do much to eradicate any unnecessary conflict between local education authorities and parents on the appropriateness of a child's educational needs.

The Government wished to see as many children as possible with special educational needs educated in ordinary schools. That statement of principle would be embodied in the legislation. The artificial barriers between handicapped and ordinary schools had to be removed so that all children could learn to work together and learn each other's problems.

The proposed legislation would guarantee parental access to the record of assessment of their child's special educational needs, to ensure that the record was not drafted, and for the record to be subject to an annual review by the local education authority. The information would be contained in a

written statement rather than a record. She anticipated that in the next five years some special schools would be closed and their local education authorities would be looking at further ways of providing special education for children with special needs.

She was anxious that children with different handicaps were not placed together. Because of the need to offer a more individualized solution to the problem of falling rolls, she would not agree to the inappropriate mixing of handicaps purely for convenience.

Lord Wells-Pestell (Lab) for the Opposition said that the Opposition was appalled that those who had a vested interest in the problems of the disabled had not taken the Government to task. The Government should have been criticized and questioned on its record.

While the Government went on imposing cuts on that section of the community which could least afford it, the Opposition would be ready to attack it, and would expect other people in the community to do precisely the same.

Lord Banks (L) said he would like to see a system which was a statutory referral of children identified as having a disabling disease to voluntary specialist organizations which would provide parents with information and support.

It was regrettable that in the international year the Government was reducing the benefits and services available to disabled people.

The Archbishop of Canterbury said the disabled were a special care of the Church. He would not regard them as the edge of society or objects of pity, but as those who were at the centre of the discovery of depth in trust.

Where it was impracticable to integrate those with severe handicaps into the life of ordinary schools, it could be a possibility of voluntary bodies establishing special schools within the maintained system and sharing staff with local education authorities.

Money made available from the closure of rural schools might be diverted to that, but it might need to be a policy of despair to say that nothing could be done without more resources. There was scope for some redeployment of the existing resources within a new special framework.

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Technological revolution should help disabled

The Earl of Snowdon said that it was vital to plug into the worldwide technological revolution to ensure that their new machines which were dynamising life could be applied to the needs of the disabled. The standards of design of the aids for the handicapped were still appallingly low.

It was still so good the disabled being given the opportunity of means of getting about if they could not afford to use them. The cost of making the necessary changes would be very small.

After the encouraging decision to remove VAT from cars bought under the Motability scheme, could not the Government remove VAT from the cost of car adaptations? Could not a fund be set up to finance individual adaptations and could not the Treasury examine how all disabled people might be allowed to buy a certain amount of petrol, perhaps relating to their working needs, free of duty?

Could not the Government look at the possibility of partial or total remission of road fund tax from the vehicles for the disabled while that tax continued to be imposed as it was at present?

This could be the year of a beginning of general acceptance of all disabled people and the end of exceptions made only for those in high positions whose complaints were listened to.

This was the time to appreciate and applaud the abilities of disabled people rather than look at their disability. This could be the year when they could be made to feel welcome and wanted.

Lady D'Arcy de Knayth (Ind) said there was widespread dismay at the repeated reference in the White Paper to lack of resources and fears that recording could lead to two classes of handicapped children. There was a concern that there was no unequivocal commitment to integrated education as a

Lady Phillips (Lab) said the National Association for Welfare of Children in Hospital were disappointed that recommendations on the education of children in hospitals had not been taken up in the White Paper.

Many handicapped children had to go in and out of hospital for long periods. Lady Fisher of Kedna (Lab) said that the Government had a greater understanding of the needs of the handicapped. Central and local government should clarify their responsibilities for the education of the handicapped, and that balancing the books did not mean increasing the hardship and deprivation and lost opportunities for handicapped young people.

The debate was concluded.

Complaint about BSC chairman sent to Committee of Privileges

House of Commons

The House agreed to a motion to refer to the Committee of Privileges a complaint by Mr Dale Campbell-Savours about a conversation between himself and Mr Ian MacGregor, the chairman of the British Steel Corporation, on December 18, 1980.

Mr Campbell-Savours (Workington, Lab) said: Pursuant to the letter he wrote yesterday, I wish to call attention to a conversation concerning the British Steel Corporation's policy towards Workington that took place in the offices of the chairman, Mr Ian MacGregor, on December 18, 1980.

Between Mr Ian MacGregor and myself, and I wish to move that the matter of my complaint be referred to the Committee of Privileges.

I should at this stage make it quite clear that the content of my motion is not directly related to the matter that is currently before the House, the British Steel Corporation's policy towards Workington.

On Tuesday, December 16, I spoke in the debate on the steel industry. In particular, I mentioned that in Workington there were widespread rumours that senior BSC executives had produced questionable statistics in order to justify closure. I also commented adversely on the judgment of some BSC management and certain trends within the corporation.

I met Mr MacGregor and some of his colleagues on the morning of Thursday, December 18, but instead of discussing some of the matters we had previously agreed to discuss, he interrupted my opening discourse and said he took exception to remarks I had made in this House on the previous Tuesday.

After further conversation about my general approach in the House concerning the steel industry, he said that if this was the way I continued to conduct my case in Parliament, he would be obliged to make such statements and attacks on the corporation, further investment in Workington would be ended.

He made reference in passing to a particular investment project. During the interview, I realized the significance of what he was saying, together with its implications. I returned at once to my

office in Dean's Yard and dictated to my research assistant the content of the interview and drafted a letter to you, Mr Speaker.

This letter was the substance of the one you received from me and referred to yesterday.

I said that morning discussed my experience with three Parliamentary colleagues.

I then faced a dilemma. If I continued to press my points in the House, it could be said that I was prejudging the best interests of my constituents, some of whom I had confined in over the Christmas period.

Conversely, if I did not pursue issues I had already raised, I would not be fulfilling my proper duties as an MP.

Therefore, the only way I could protect my independence as an MP and protect the rights of my constituents was to avail myself of the procedures specifically designed to achieve these ends—namely to move a motion for a reference to the Committee of Privileges.

As MPs will understand, I have stood by my original decision, not without much thought and consideration, and am greatly aware of the implications of my actions, but placed in my position, the House will agree that I had little alternative.

The House will be conscious of the fact that I have chosen my words with great care. I am not asking for a judgment by MPs on the floor of the House. I am only asking to be given the right to put my full case to the Committee of Privileges thereby enabling them to make a judgment.

Mr Francis Pym, Chancellor of the Duchy of Lancaster and Leader of the House (Cambridgeshire, C): I make no comment on what Mr Campbell-Savours has said or on the matter proposed by him for reference to the Committee of Privileges.

The best course for the House to take is to refer the matter as proposed to the motion.

After that, when the committee has reported, the House could of course comment on the committee's report. On that basis, I agree the motion and think the House would be well advised to accept it.

Mr John Siskin, for the Opposition (Lewisham, Deptford, Lab): This is obviously a complaint which under the House procedure the Committee of Privileges ought to deal with as rapidly as possible and, I would have thought, without any comment from the House itself. The motion was agreed to.

No need for a rates explosion this year

Only nine local authorities persisted in maintaining levels of expenditure which would force them to take action to increase rates.

Michael Heseltine, Secretary of State for the Environment, said that the Government had approved a Report and three orders for 1981-82. The Government would not increase rates for 1981-82.

Mr Heseltine added that even at this stage one authority might persist in increasing rates. He said that the Government would not increase rates for 1981-82.

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Legislative topics of backbench MPs

The following private members' Bills, with their sponsors indicated, were introduced, formally read a first time, and set down for second reading on the following Fridays:

JANUARY 30
Indecent Displays (Control) Bill to make provision with respect to the display of indecent material. (Mr Timothy Sainsbury, Dover, C.)

Industrial Diseases (Notification) Bill to make further provision for the notification of industrial diseases. (Mr Nigel Spearing, Newham, South, Lab.)

Aircraft and Shipbuilding Industries (Amendment) Bill to amend the Aircraft and Shipbuilding Industries Act 1977 by requiring any person who is a member of the British Aerospace or British Shipbuilders pursuant to section 19 of that Act to be valued, in certain circumstances, on a going concern basis. (Mr Michael Grylls, North-West Surrey, C, on behalf of Mr Geoffrey Rippon, Hexham, C.)

Landlord and Tenant Bill to amend Part II of the Landlord and Tenant Act 1954. (Mr Donald Kaberry, Leeds, North-West, C.)

Local Government and Planning (Amendment) Bill to provide for control over listed buildings and for the enforcement of planning control and control of listed buildings. (Mr Robert Atkins, Preston, North, C, on behalf of Mr Stephen Hastings, Mid Bedfordshire, C.)

Freedom of Information Bill to provide for the right of access to official information and articles. (Mr Frank Hooley, Sheffield, Healey, Lab.)

Smaller Businesses (Ministerial and other functions) Bill to promote the expansion of small and medium sized businesses by making provision for the appointment of a Minister of State with functions in respect of such businesses and by making provision for the appointment of a Minister of State with functions in respect of such businesses. (Mr John Page, Harrow, West, C.)

Football Crowds (Control) Bill to make further provision for the control of spectators at football matches. (Mr William Whitlock, Nottingham, North, Lab.)

FEBRUARY 7
Horse Betting Levy Bill to make provision for and in connection with the levy payable on account of the levy payable under section 27 of the Betting Gaming and Lotteries Act 1963 by persons who are licensed to conduct betting. (Mr Nicholas Winterton, Macclesfield, C, on behalf of Mr Charles Morrison, Devon, C.)

Development of Tourism (Scotland) Bill to amend the Development of Tourism Act 1969 to empower the Scottish Tourist Board to carry on activities outside the United Kingdom so as to encourage people to visit Scotland. (Mr Gordon Wilson, Dundee, East, Scot, Lab.)

Homeowners (Protection) Bill to amend the law to provide for the further protection of homeowners and for the better enforcement of the law as so amended. (Mr Frank White, Bury and Radcliffe, Lab.)

MARCH 6
Zoo Licensing (No 2) Bill to regulate by licence the conduct of zoos. (Mr John Blackburn, Dudley, West, C.)

Concern about heavy impact on London

Among the under-spending councils which decided to increase their budgets as a result of his initiative was the Greater London Council.

Mr Heseltine said that the Government would not increase rates for 1981-82. He said that the Government would not increase rates for 1981-82.

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Meeting with Talbot chief

Assurances about the Talbot car factory at Linwood were given by Mr Alexander Fletcher, Under Secretary of State for Scotland, to Mr Allan Stewart (East Renfrewshire, C) who had asked if the minister had seen press reports about the factory and the Government's intentions were.

Mr Fletcher (Edinburgh, North, C): The Government stands ready to assist with any investment which the owning company, PSA, wish to make at Linwood and we will be only too pleased to discuss this with them.

He added: The Secretary of State for Scotland (Mr George Younger) is meeting the Talbot chief, Executive Director Mr. Press reports are untrue when they say Mr Younger has been discussing the future of Talbot with a Japanese or any other foreign car company.

Mr Martin Stevens (Hammersmith, Fulham, C) said even if it was agreed that the Linwood Education Authority had been spending too much, it was not reasonable to expect it to spend a single penny more than it was at present. He said that the kind of savings that were required and the penalties for over-spending put it in a Catch-22 position anyway.

Mr (Harling, Wood Green, Lab) said the whole structure of the settlement was a political structure based on an attempt to prevent local authorities from spending money to alleviate hardship and social problems in their areas.

One major golden thread running through the debate was that show local authorities spent too much, that they employed too many people and consumed too much of the resources of the gross domestic product.

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Delay in taxation changes urged

European Parliament Strasbourg

The European Commission should propose without delay the elimination of the ceiling of 1 per cent of the VAT yield in EEC countries which can go to the Community budget, Signor Altieri (Spesino, Italy, Com) said when presenting a report from the budgets committee working party on ways of increasing the community's "own resources".

But Nellie Was So Nice, by Bruce
Fletcher (Hale, \$7.57). Yet
another of those grand old-
time westerns with a twist
on wealth-cramped, Medi-
teranean Isle, with character
(mostly, mercenaries) human
enough to hold the interest
from start to finish.

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The England party in the indoor cricket school at Lord's yesterday: Back row: D. L. Bairstow, M. W. Gatting, B. C. Rose, G. B. Stevenson, G. Miller, G. R. Dille, P. Willey, D. I. Gower, J. E. Emburey, P. R. Downton, R. O. Butcher. Front row: Bernard Thomas (physiotherapist), G. A. Gooch, R. G. D. Willis (vice-captain), Alan Smith (manager), I. T. Botham (captain), G. Boycott, C. M. Old, Ken Barrington (assistant manager).

England need a hero to shine in the Caribbean sun

By John Woodcock

Cricket Correspondent

The England cricket team fly today to Antigua where they will have four days' practice before moving on to Trinidad for the first match of their three-month tour. Although they might have preferred to be taking their early

in Barbados or Port of Spain, the grounds there were unavailable and Antigua has much to recommend it.

It is a friendly island and it will be a help to the way round when, for the first time, England play a Test match there towards the end of March. The pitches in Antigua are prepared by the

How long have you been working on the ground? "Denness asked one of them on England's tour. "Three years, sir," came the reply. "And I've another two to go."

Some of the best pitches in the world are to be found in Antigua; from one of those dry streets built by the British, the

Given good weather these few opening days should be free from trouble. Only an optimistic and an

confident about the rest of the tour. Even in the days when cricket was played more for fun than for money, it was usual to

get through a Test series in the West Indies without a riot. To do so now, when cricketers are so

openly racist, would be an achievement in itself. Though it is asking a lot, England's best chance of enjoying their tour and doing justice to themselves is to be

proof against provocation. But how are they ever going to bowl West Indies out? Their

hopes of doing so will be highest at Port of Spain where the pitch, having been recently relaid, is

unlikely to last. There must, too, be some encouragement to be had from the astrophysical fact that

West Indies, reputedly the best batting side in the world, have just spent almost 10 weeks in Pakistan and scored, between

them, only one individual 100—Richardson's in the fourth and last Test match. Whatever the

Pakistanis may have done to their pitches, to suit their slower bowlers, this suggests that some of the younger West Indians, such as Bachchan and Haynes, have much to learn and that some of the older ones, such as Lloyd and Kalicharran, are not as good as they were.

If England bowl to a plan, based on a strict adherence to length and line, the course the Test match will take is likely to revolve to an unusual degree round one man—Richardson. In Australia last winter, whenever Richardson failed the West Indians had a struggle on their hands. In New Zealand, soon

afterwards, when they were without him, they lost the Test series.

In Pakistan, in the series just ended, Richardson averaged 73. But have a look at how the others fared: Lloyd averaged 21, Kalicharran 16, Haynes 17 and Bachchan 19. Even without Jackson and Underwood, who should both be going, the signs from England's point of view are not entirely unfavourable—so long as all those game knees and creaking shoulders and complaining backs behave themselves.

In many respects a tour of the West Indies is still a romantic prospect. Who, if young enough, would not want to be going to St Vincent, Montserrat, Barbados and Antigua, even if a fortnight in Jamaica's Kingston and Guyana's Georgetown is less beguiling?

What may be tedious for those of all ages is the over-rate. If, these days, England's is seldom creditable, West Indies is sometimes a disgrace. In the West Indies there are never less than three drinks intervals in a day. When it suits them both sides will be able to bowl fewer than 10 overs an hour.

In their past 13 Test matches West Indies have played a spin bowler only twice—at Dominica last February. In the one case they lost and at Falmouth in November. They have a formula now, lacking in all imagination yet

completely effective. Their specialist bowlers are all fast, any spin that

may be needed being supplied by Richardson.

No one can notice the difference between the fast and the slow as they play it today and as they did when he was in the team. He has a

look that says he is the greatest of all time. In 1967-68 Hall and Llewellyn, West Indies' two specialist fast bowlers, bowled 25 overs between them—though perhaps one third of Sober's 225 overs were a quickish pace. Gibbs, one of five spinners, bowled 319 overs himself.

Towards the end of last summer in England, the Indian started to bowl round the wicket at Boycott, fast and persistently, short, stinging at his ribs. They will do it again, you may be sure, and if English umpires allowed it to pass, as they did, so no doubt will those in the Caribbean. Far from being a help, this is a

disadvantage. If Richardson is one key figure, Boycott is undoubtedly another. No England captain ever faced a bowler as fast as he. He has a side of limited ability, committed to a constant battery of speed. Not because of the doubts about the fitness of some of them and the absence of others, are they as dashing in the field as they were a couple of years ago. It will be a relief when the player who is the only one to have been

in the field for a long time, when they will be times, too, when

the umpires seem impossibly difficult to satisfy.

As if all this were not enough, Boycott has himself to control and his own team to lead. He has a

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disadvantage. If Richardson is one key figure, Boycott is undoubtedly another. No England captain ever faced a bowler as fast as he. He has a side of limited ability, committed to a constant battery of speed. Not because of the doubts about the fitness of some of them and the absence of others, are they as dashing in the field as they were a couple of years ago. It will be a relief when the player who is the only one to have been

in the field for a long time, when they will be times, too, when

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Table tennis

England head towards more hazardous route

By Richard Streeter

England, seeking their fifth successive win, must beat Czechoslovakia in the European table tennis League at Bolton tonight to maintain their chance of finishing in the top three. England's route becomes more hazardous in their last two matches—away to Sweden on February 11 and at home to Hungary, the favourites, in Ipswich on March 12.

Against a confident and serious England team, it is for once the Czechoslovakians who have the selection and tactical problems. Czechoslovakia won 5-0 when the teams last met in the European championships in Bern but it was mainly thanks to the youthful Jindrich Panky who won the match. Their leading players, Josef Dvoracek and Milan Orlovsky, usually the first choices in the League, were both beaten by Desmond Douglas and John Hiltner.

Dvoracek, in particular, has seldom fathomed Hiltner's subtleties and there will be a temptation to choose Panky ahead of him. Panky, though, already carries a heavy burden as he will also play in the mixed and possibly the men's doubles.

There is no comfort for the Czechoslovakians in the women's doubles either. The European 5-0 is unavailable. She is in dispute with her national association over their refusal to allow her to play in West Germany. Marie Hrachova, the 1980 European youth champion, replaces Mrs Hiltner but seems unlikely to beat Jill Hammerstein, in heat mixed and men's doubles will be especially important. Panky and Miss Hrachova have developed into a strong mixed pair this season, both the English pair won in three sets the men's doubles. The recent French championships. The men's doubles, between Panky and Douglas and Paul Day and Orlovsky and Panky, could go either way. England's win 4-3 is a justifiable forecast.

Super division

England

Czechoslovakia

France

West Germany

Poland

Yugoslavia

Finland

Sweden

Hungary

Czechoslovakia

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Finland

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AND SO TO SANCTIONS?

The collapse of the Geneva conference is of serious concern. The conference was not called to argue the substantive issues in a settlement of the Namibian problem: these had been worked through in four years of arduous diplomacy. South Africa's western friends had brought great pressure to bear to modify the Republic's earlier attitudes to the trust territory, and with success. The plan for United Nations-supervised elections and a ceasefire had been agreed by all parties. What remained was mainly implementation. Even the problem of bringing all the political parties—the internal parties as well as Swapo—to the meeting on a comparable basis had been overcome. But the signal is not to be given. South Africa finds after all that the United Nations is not sufficiently impartial.

Many will see in this argument a mere pretext, prompted just because Swapo have become favourites to win at the polls (and Mr Reagan is expected to be pro-South Africa in outlook.) For the bias in the United Nations position has been argued at length, yet everything seemed ready for an election after some redefinition of its officials' stance as a peace-keeping and observing presence. Apparently neither the United Nations officials nor the western diplomats expected it to be, after all, the rock to split Geneva. But, though the United Nations made changes in its officials' remit in Namibia, the Assembly still holds the United Nations to be the legitimate administering authority and is still on record that Swapo is the sole representative of Namibian people, of whatever tribe or race. If this doctrinal point was to abort the

conference, South Africa should never have allowed those concerned to think substantive agreement had been reached.

Swapo now proposes to get the question of mandatory sanctions against the Republic raised in the Security Council. But the Council must see that the organization is not fully impartial as between the internal and external political parties, and so is not in a position to ask its member to impose United Nations authority by mandatory sanctions. For it is still open to the Assembly to take corrective action in respect of its sponsorship of Swapo. United Nations forces and officials have to be seen to be neutral, not as persons institutionally committed to the proposition that Swapo is the only legitimate winner, implying that if the rest (called "puppets" by Mr Nujoma at Geneva itself) in fact won, they would be as much usurpers as the General Assembly holds South African authority to be.

Sanctions against South Africa to enforce the United Nations writ in Namibia would, in any case, almost inevitably merge into a wholly illegitimate exercise to overturn South Africa's internal institutions. However desirable speedy social change may be within South Africa, the charter does not permit interference in its internal affairs—and for this reason also sanctions that would have, or would acquire, "creeping" objectives are ultra vires. The precedent that would be set is totally unacceptable.

In terms of practicalities, the South African government must have calculated that sanctions would not work, just as they were not the decisive factor in Rhodesia. Their first victims

would be Zambia, Zimbabwe and other frontline black states, which depend on South African transport, foodstuffs and markets. It would be hypocritical to ignore the probability that Britain would suffer heavily from the wide range of sanctions that Mr Nujoma wants. In particular, in damaging Britain's extensive trading and financial relations with South Africa, they would appreciably add to unemployment here. Other nations might suffer, but none have such large involvements as Britain, and many evaded Rhodesian sanctions while playing lip-service to them. This would happen again.

The Swapo leaders propose to intensify the guerrilla war. This statement is not to be regarded lightly even though South Africa has shown it is well able to hold the guerrillas off. But Swapo will now hope to get more help, and overtly, from its friends, especially Russia and Cuba. If this help were given in quantity, it might not only intensify the war but in some degree internationalize it. The west can use this possibility to urge further concessions on South Africa as well as to insist on a new approach from the United Nations. It looks as though the South African government has decided to challenge the west to make up its mind what value it places on its economic and strategic interests in South Africa. In trade at least the balance between "white" and "black" Africa has moved steadily to the Republic's disadvantage. The time is approaching when making sides with South Africa or black Africa—as an unbridgeable divide so long avoided—is opening up at last—critical reappraisals have to be made in western capitals.

THREE CLASSES OF CITIZEN

The British Nationality Bill, which was published yesterday, is based fairly closely on the White Paper of last July. The proposals set out in that document have been criticized for proposing a new structure of nationality law to accord with the requirements of immigration law, rather than the other way round. It is because of the implications for immigration that the Bill provides for three categories of citizenship: British citizens who would have an unqualified right to live in this country, and citizens of British dependent territories and British overseas citizens, neither of whom would have such a right. If immigration considerations were of no account there would be a strong case for having just one category of citizenship. That would be simpler and would risk creating so many anomalies.

But one of the arguments that has been most strongly advanced for having a new law of citizenship is that the right to live here should be based in the first instance on who is a citizen of the United Kingdom. That requires a more coherent definition of citizenship than Britain has at the moment. But if citizenship is to confer the right to live in this country, it is

impractical to expect that it should be defined without regard to the implications for immigration.

If there were to be just one category of British citizenship—to include those who would otherwise become citizens of British dependent territories and British overseas citizens—carrying the right to live in this country, then the gates would be flung open to over five million people in Hongkong and other colonies and associated states. It is true that few of them would in all probability wish to settle in Britain. Yet nobody can be certain about what might develop in the future, and a few million people in the overseas dependencies might sometime wish to take up their right of entry would be liable to feed irrational fears. This would be extremely bad for race relations in this country.

The Government is therefore justified in proposing three separate categories, but this does not mean that it has defined these categories correctly. There are a number of points which will need to be examined when the Bill is in committee. One change which should definitely be made is in the proposal that

children born in the United Kingdom should not automatically become British citizens; one parent would have to be either a British citizen or settled in the United Kingdom. There are a number of objections to such a change. It would risk creating a new class of stateless persons; it would create confusion and possible distress because a person might not find out for many years that he was not a citizen with a right to a passport; and it is unnecessary because the number of people who would be deprived of citizenship by this provision cannot be large.

Parliament should also look critically at the limitation of the right to citizenship by descent of those born outside the United Kingdom. The child of British parents, neither of whom was born in the United Kingdom, will not automatically become a British citizen unless one parent is a Crown servant. Where increased reliance is to be placed on the discretion of the Secretary of State it becomes all the more necessary to ensure that there are satisfactory arrangements for appeal. It is on such detailed but extremely important questions for individual rights that Parliament should concentrate its attention.

THE ORDEAL OF SIGNOR D'URSO

It is not on the word of his captors, but only when he is a liberty, that Signor D'Urso who was taken by the Red Brigades more than a month ago, will be safe. But yesterday's message from the terrorists gives hope that his captivity will soon be over.

The case has provided a sharp reminder of the continuing effectiveness of the Red Brigades, in spite of the intensive campaign against them, and of the pressures that a group of that sort can bring to bear on society. In the past few weeks they have carried out various operations, such as the kidnapping of Signor D'Urso and the assassination of General Galvagni, the head of them, to be very well informed about the operations of the security services. So it is clear that they have some well-placed sympathizers who are ready to help.

In the D'Urso case, they have been helped by the difficulties that there are bound to be in a free society in dealing with a threat like this. No one wants to have an innocent man die at the

hands of a group of this sort, and so there were bound to be pressures to accede to their demands. It was pressures of this sort, brought by the Socialists, which led to the government's decision to announce the closure of the high-security prison of Asinara, one of the terrorists' demands. It was a mistake, and has been much criticized. The same pressures led to the decisions of *Il Messaggero* and *Il Secolo* *Dicamnovemmo* to break ranks with other national papers and publish the statements made by Red Brigades inmates in Trani and Palmi prisons.

Even so, there is no reason to accept the Red Brigades' claim that they have won a "great victory". They have proved that they have nuisance value, to put it at its lowest, and have made themselves talked about. But it is hard to believe that publication of their arid propaganda is going to make many converts. As against that, there was the firm refusal of the government earlier this month, backed by all the main parties, to negotiate with the Red Brigades; and the deci-

sion by much of the press that it will no longer serve as a conduit for terrorist declarations. Nor, apparently, have the Red Brigades succeeded in their demand that the conspiracy charges brought against their members in the two prisons should be dropped. The bringing of the charges was a shrewd tactical move by the Government, because it meant that the inmates could face a murder charge if Signor D'Urso was killed.

Some good can come out of this case if it strengthens the resolve of all concerned to stand up against terrorist pressure. Obviously, every case has to be considered on its merits, and there need be no objection to the press publishing a statement by a hostage and threatening his life, for a case like that need not lead to a reputation. But in dealing with the Red Brigades according to one request under threat is likely to lead to new kidnappings, new threats and possibly further loss of life. So there must be a strong case for standing firm.

agists. No English musical mobbery there!

The present D'Oyly Carte management, congratulated by the Arts Council report on its fine business expertise in the art of touring and tight budgeting, would do well to consider the formation of a similar type of company and thus bring the starved provincial public to the really wide selection of the musical theatre, thus demonstrating to the public and the general of grants that far from being something left over from being something left over from a considerable national asset in the theatrical future.

Yours faithfully,
MAX MIRADIN,
179c West Heath Road, NW3.

Trees for energy

From Mr A. J. Malpas
Sir, As well as planting and pollarding oaks for fuel (January 7) and coppicing (January 9) there is a

further traditional source of wood which is being neglected, namely the tree in the hedgerow.

In this part of the country, at least, it is noticeable how, with the use of the flail trimmer for cutting hedges, the practice of leaving promising young saplings in hedges to grow into trees is being abandoned, presumably because the tractor driver finds it a nuisance to lift the flail, and it might even mean that some trimming up would have to be done by hand.

This, together with neglect of existing hedgerow trees by allowing them to become choked with ivy, is going to lead to miles of uniformly trimmed hedges with not a hedgerow tree in sight. Tidy all right, but such a dull landscape and such a waste of a valuable resource.

Yours sincerely,
A. J. MALPAS,
Hillside,
Kimbolton,
Leamington, Herefordshire.

Are poorer states getting poorer?

From Professor H. W. Singer

In his article on "The flaws in the Brandt report" (January 9), Professor Hayek questions that there is an "increasing gap" in the standard of living between the poorer and the richer countries. The poorer tend to grow more slowly than richer countries, thus falling more and more behind. Yet the World Development Report, 1980, published by the World Bank in Washington, shows that this is precisely what happened, at least over the last 18 years.

The average annual growth in per capita gross national product, 1960-1978, was 1.6 per cent for the low-income countries, 3.1 per cent for the middle-income countries (even excluding such capital-surplus Organisation of Petroleum Exporting Countries as Iraq and Iran which grew by 4.1 per cent and 7.9 per cent) and 3.7 per cent for the industrialized countries (even excluding high-income Libya and Saudi Arabia). In that sense, clearly the poor have fallen further behind the rich.

In demonstrating a "sad decline" of some countries because they have become "increasingly socialist", Professor Hayek lists Great Britain, Argentina and Czechoslovakia. This is not a convincing list.

Let us leave aside Great Britain (although even the UK growth rate per capita was higher in 1960-78 than the low-income countries). But why Argentina? The history of regimes and the current regime in Argentina are very similar to Chile which Professor Hayek singles out as an "economic miracle".

Whatever the differences between Chile and Argentina, different degrees of socialism seem the least plausible. And as for Czechoslovakia, if we agree that free Czechoslovakia before 1938 was better off than today's Comecon Czechoslovakia, one could also quote counter-examples such as Bulgaria, which remained desperately poor in pre-war days, but according to the World Bank has now (1960-1978) a higher growth rate than any industrialized country except Japan. Moreover, how Czechoslovakia's troubles nothing to do with Nazi occupation and barbarism?

One may well prefer to live in a democracy with a low growth rate of per capita GNP than under a dictatorship with a high growth rate, but that is not the point which Professor Hayek makes.

Yours etc,
H. W. SINGER,
The Institute of Development Studies at the University of Sussex, Brighton, Sussex.
January 12.

Rugby football injuries

From Mr Kenneth Spence

Sir, Rugby has always incurred a reputation for being a violent game. It is a fact that in any play accident has always been part of the game. Your concern should be not so much with the effect of tetraplegia (letters, December 12 and 13), as with the modern cause of the injury, the scrum.

Two vertebrae were fractured in my neck for Scotland vs Ireland at Murrayfield in 1953. Those were not the only bones broken over a period of four years. I hold no grudge for any of them but in the modern modern rugby, at most levels, my impression is that the actual collision now bears some deliberate malice on too many occasions.

For my outdated belief—and I was a pillar for this—game has lost its *joie de vivre*. We should listen to men like Logie Bruce Lockhart, with whom I had the privilege to play for Scotland. We should remember the laughter of Tony O'Reilly, Cliff Morgan, and remember, like Oxford University at Richmond, in 1952, that you could still win with 13 men without substitutes.

We have become far too structured, over-coached, set to win, afraid to lose. We, the players, have lost the joy of the game. We should listen to men like Logie Bruce Lockhart, with whom I had the privilege to play for Scotland. We should remember the laughter of Tony O'Reilly, Cliff Morgan, and remember, like Oxford University at Richmond, in 1952, that you could still win with 13 men without substitutes.

George Orwell once wrote: "Serious sport has nothing to do with fair play. It is bound up with hatred, jealousy, boastfulness, disregard of public rules, and a sadistic pleasure in abusing the other." That is why people are getting hurt now, with a frequency and even severity, and at all age levels, that is well in excess of the case some years back. Rugby is now a game of the few, not the many, unfortunately attached to boxing.

I blame the captains who have shelved their moral responsibility; who defer to coaches, rely on substitutes, and who will not kick the scrummers out because they fear to lose more than being glad to win. Yours faithfully,
KENNETH SPENCE,
60 Elberly Street, SW6.
January 14.

Historical heirlooms

From Commander L. M. M. Saunders Watson

Sir, Sir John Lawrence asks (January 6) how he might hold together his family pictures and heirlooms presumed to be the ravages of capital transfer tax (CTT). As he says, he cannot put them into a charitable trust and keep them in the house, unless of course the house itself forms part of the trust.

If the house is outstanding then he could claim conditional exemption for the house and its historically associated contents from CTT. If the house is not, then he can sell seek conditional exemption for such of his chattels as are of museum quality in the national or local sense. If accepted they could then remain in his house subject to undertakings for public access which may not, depending on the circumstances, extend to more than a viewing by appointment, which it appears Sir John already offers.

Yours faithfully,
L. M. SAUNDERS WATSON,
Deputy President,
Historic Houses Association,
Rockingham Castle,
Leicestershire.

LETTERS TO THE EDITOR

Power of civil defence after a nuclear strike

From Professor J. H. Humphrey, FRG, and Dr J. Fielding

Sir, Those who seek to draw attention to the virtually unimaginable horror of a large-scale nuclear attack on Britain will welcome the call for a balanced debate on civil defence made by the spokesman for emergency planning officers (January 6).

We do not propose to debate their claim to be the true humanists of our age or their accusation of intellectual dishonesty against the serious people who believe in the value of unilateral nuclear disarmament for Britain. However they state the central core of their argument clearly: "Even though millions of people would die in a large-scale nuclear war... the numbers of survivors would be significantly greater if proper preparations are made." "Proper home defence preparations would pay their biggest dividends in terms of lives saved in a large-scale nuclear war."

The present world stockpile is the equivalent of 10,000 Hiroshima bombs. Since Hiroshima there have been some 1,200 nuclear bomb tests of weapons vastly greater in destructive power than the first. Their effects in terms of blast, fire and radiation are well documented. The data base for the medical effects of death, destruction and disorganization certainly starts with Hiroshima and Nagasaki and although the effects of modern weapons defy comprehension, they can be calculated. It is the consideration of available information on the foreseeable medical

consequences which makes the claim of the civil defence programme spurious. The *Lancet* (November 15, 1980) stated: "In scenes of scarcely imaginable devastation, such medical aid as survives would have little to offer."

We do not criticize civil defence as such and we regard planning to cope with large-scale emergencies as important and valuable in peace or war. Rather we are deeply concerned that our Government and its advisers should not allow the defence of Britain to be only assured by a declared intention to use nuclear weapons if necessary. As an earnest of its readiness to be at the receiving end as well as the sending end of such weapons, the civilian population is to be persuaded that civil defence measures could make the consequences acceptable.

The claim of the civil defence programme to mitigate death and destruction in a nuclear attack is a dangerous and inviting acquisition. We believe that there is a worldwide constituency of people who wish to be freed from the threat of nuclear death of the civilized world. We aim to inform the public, the medical profession and the decision makers of the foreseeable medical consequences of nuclear war so that they may weigh carefully whether they can accept policies with such consequences.

Yours etc,
J. H. HUMPHREY, Chairman,
V. FIELDING, Vice-Chairman,
Medical Campaign against Nuclear War,
120 Edith Road, W14.

Lawyers and divorce

From Mr Graham Lee

Sir, "The first thing we do, let's kill all the lawyers," says Dick in *Henry VI, Part II*. Trevor Berry (*Social Focus*, January 7) has taken upon this perennially popular cry. If you want a civilized divorce, the argument goes, don't see a solicitor; he will only stir up conflict where none exists. The sentence is attractive; a lot of money could be saved if lawyers were dispensed with in matrimonial matters. But is it true?

The role of solicitors in divorce proceedings has been studied by Mervyn Huxley, senior research fellow in the Department of Social Administration and Social Work at the University of Bristol. His findings, the results of two surveys of divorcing parents, have recently been published in *Justice and Welfare in Divorce* (Sweet and Maxwell, 1980).

He says: "Contrary to popular belief, my impression, from other investigations I have recently conducted, is that many solicitors, probably the majority, do not adopt an adversarial attitude when dealing with family disputes. Many realize that they need to protect their clients' interests without stimulating further family conflict, and to find ways of fostering realistic settlement without making their clients feel that the lawyer's allegiance is weakening."

Mr Berry somewhat cynically asks whether the Lord Chancellor's Department, and lawyers generally, have failed to advance the cause of family law because such courts would divert funds away from lawyers and into conciliation. (Matrimonial work is, incidentally, one of the least remunerative areas of legal work.) In fact, lawyers are

among the prime movers in the conciliation services which are being set up in various parts of the country at the moment.

But the main argument against cutting lawyers out of divorce is that divorce is firmly set in a legal framework. There is a large and complex body of family law, and a network of legal principles on which divorces are based. Each party has rights capable of enforcement through the courts, the nature and extent of which he or she is not likely fully to appreciate. A tribunal would have to have the power to make orders for custody, maintenance and so on, which would be enforceable like court orders.

Although most divorcing spouses would prefer things to be settled amicably as possible, when such important matters are at stake they want their own interests safeguarded. Studies which have been done of various types of legal proceedings—industrial tribunals, national insurance local tribunals, supplementary benefit appeal tribunals, and bail appeals—have shown that the hearing can significantly affect the outcome. Barring legal representation would also give the more articulate and self-confident spouse a considerable edge.

The Law Society agrees that the present system is unsatisfactory. As suggested in our discussion document: "A Better Way Out", what is needed is a family court, staffed by legal and welfare specialists, with conciliation at an early stage, using an inquisitorial rather than an adversarial procedure.

Yours sincerely,
GRAHAM LEE,
The Law Society,
113 Chancery Lane, WC2,
January 9.

Striking attitudes

From Mr Richard Shepherd, MP for Aldridge Brownhills (Conservative)

Sir, I would submit that it is much more probable that it is the attitudes betrayed in the letter of January 5 from Mr Derek Prag MEP, which has led to an increasingly noticeable alienation of British sentiment for the EEC rather than any vigorous defence of British national economic interest as expressed by Teddy Taylor or any other member of the Conservative European Reform Group. Indeed Mr Prag's assertion that, what is in effect a robust defence of our national interest by the European Reform Group, not incidentally dissimilar to the characteristic of the French, could only bring about the withdrawal of Britain from the Community in itself reflects the passive nature of those who talk of change but who have so far failed to identify detailed proposals for altering those policies that are contrary to our national interest.

The common agricultural policy is a point in question. No detailed proposal for reform has, as far as I know, emerged from either Mr Prag or the Ministry of Agriculture for public discussion, although it has been accepted that the CAP, as presently constituted, is unacceptable and that reform is urgent and inevitable.

Many of us in the Reform Group believe that the CAP is unworkable and that far from being a cornerstone on which the Com-

munity is founded may well be the rock on which it founders.

It is surely a folly to imagine that the only way in which farm income can be maintained and continuity of supply guaranteed is through the destruction of free trade in food. I do not believe that the CAP is not dissimilar to the corn laws of the last century supported by and large by the same mixture of reaction and self-interest and that intrinsically the CAP is as bad and as indefensible. The only consolation is that as with the corn laws abolition is inevitable.

In other areas this paper has pointed out that the Government's present position on fisheries is a retreat from that declared by both governments in the immediate past. Indeed, I would hold that our territorial fisheries are as much a national resource as North Sea oil and that the same policy response with regard to depletion, conservation, and investment should be adopted.

The purpose behind the European Reform Group is to seek positive ways in which the structure of the Community can be reformed compatible with the principles of membership. My own feeling is critical analysis will be more supportive in the long run of membership of what will be a very different Community than what is perceived by the public to be the uncritical men of those identified as Euro-fanatics.

Yours faithfully,
RICHARD SHEPHERD,
House of Commons.

Passing-out parade

From Mr Brian Edwards

Sir, Mr Jonathan Paget (January 12) suggests that Britannia Royal Naval College errs in training both Iranian and Libyan officers. It is the custom of the Law Society to receive a visit each year from those officers attending the Staff College course at Camberley.

It is a belated great pride of our military and naval institutions that people come from all over the world, from countries who may be in conflict, to learn not only the skills of the soldier and sailor but what may lay behind those institutions.

At the height of the tension between Egypt and Israel the Law Society was privileged to receive officers from both countries, attending the same Staff College course, who were here not only to perfect their military knowledge but hopefully to gain some idea of the concept of British justice and perhaps this small country's ability to survive. We are probably unique in Europe in this approach.

Yours faithfully,
BRIAN EDWARDS,
Hope House,
Little Bursstead,
Essex.
January 13.

Hot under collar

From Mr Robert Gieve

Sir, Paper collars did, in a way, briefly assist in keeping the Empire together. In the more distant corners, judges liked to appear attired as they ought, not always with expert local searching finally gave up, not very long ago, a customer of ours who is a judge in Australia was ordering a regular supply of paper wing collars.

However, I must with respect disagree with our valued customer, Mr Ivan Mason, whose letter you publish today (January 14). Paper collars were inelegant garments. A well-starched collar adds a unique final touch to a gentleman's suit. Gave apart the problem is how to get a collar properly starched. In these days when home industries are starting up for everything, wives might find recapturing the art of starching an amusing diversion. Also a method of control; a husband who tends to be cross at home might well mend his ways if he was faced with a series of saw-edged collars.

Yours faithfully,
ROBERT GIEVE, Director,
Gieves and Hawkes Ltd,
1 Savile Row, W1.
January 14.

Competition for charity funds

From Mr Nicholas Hinton

Sir, Your very brief report entitled "Charity fears" (January 13), hardly does justice to a matter that is of the greatest concern to many voluntary organizations throughout the country.

Last year saw the passage through Parliament of the Health Services Act. This contains, among other measures, a short clause enabling health authorities to engage in fund-raising activities. At the time it was assumed that this clause was designed to encourage the resources given to, and the help given by, such groups as hospital Leagues of Friends and to attract non-government money for such limited and specific items as body-scanners or dialysis machines. Indeed, assurance was given by speakers from the Government side when, for example, Lord Sandys talked of "a modest extension of existing ways in which the National Health Service can draw on voluntary funds."

However, shortly before Christmas the Department of Health and Social Security issued a circular on the subject to health authorities. Published without any adequate consultation, this document (Health Circular 80/11) encourages any part of the NHS to set up registered charities and to accept, in addition, charitable grant-making trusts, commerce and industry for funds. Furthermore, all fund-raising activities carried out by the NHS are to be financed by what amounts to interest-free loans from the Exchequer.

This move by the DHSS places the Health Service, the largest and most heavily-financed single enterprise in the whole field of social welfare, in direct competition for funds with the voluntary sector.

Secondly, this comes at a time when many voluntary organizations are feeling the effects of the recession and are having to make substantial cutbacks in the services they offer to those who suffer handicap or illness. (Ironically, this measure is introduced at the outset of the International Year of Disabled People.)

Thirdly, the DHSS circular gives a clear advantage to the Health Service over voluntary organizations in fund-raising. Making interest-free loans available. No voluntary body has such a resource.

Finally, the DHSS has breached a major principle of cardinal importance to voluntary organizations by encouraging and allowing statutory organizations to achieve charitable status. (Ironically, this measure is introduced at the outset of the International Year of Disabled People.)

The most damaging blow suffered by the voluntary sector for many years. It is extraordinary that the circular comes from a Government and a department that has given overt encouragement to voluntary organizations and a Government which is encouraging the public to give generously to voluntary organizations.

Yours faithfully,
NICHOLAS HINTON, Director,
National Council for Voluntary Organisations,
26 Bedford Square, WC1.
January 14.

Jealous guard on moor

From Mr B. N. Howell

Sir, Readers of your report on "The corner on Dartmoor and Exmoor" (January 2) could not help but get an inaccurate impression of life in these areas, and readers could conclude that those responsible for their care have been negligent. As a small Dartmoor landowner, I quote some facts.

In our little parish of Harford, all within the Dartmoor National Park, we have about three small fields under the plough in 2,000 acres or so, much less than in the 1940s and 1950s and possibly less than 1,000 or 2,000 years ago.

No "vast conifer plantations" have been planted on Dartmoor since the voluntary agreement on forestry in the early 1960s. The incidence of the impression of the moor swarming with troops under training. I wish our Army was larger. Although I walk on the moor frequently, it is at least 20 years since I met anybody in uniform. There was a rumour that a helicopter was going to land a few years ago, but, alas, we missed that excitement.

Yours faithfully,
B. N. HOWELL,
Lybrydge, Devon.
January 7.

Model example

From Mr Jonathan Ruffell

Sir, When Mr Bernard Levin (January 13) remarks that "a bodiless waxwork would be far 'stranger and jollier' than a libellous painting he is obviously unaware of the case of Monson v Madame Tussaud's in 1894 which, indeed, has both these qualities.

In that year, simultaneously in exhibitions in London and Birmingham, a waxwork of Alfred John Monson was shown. A prime figure in the engaging "Ardlammont mystery", he had been tried in Scotland for murder but a verdict of "not proven" was returned. Thus he could not appear in the tableau of the affair, but instead was placed near the entrance of the Chamber of Horrors.

Mr Monson was able to sue Madame Tussaud's for the defamatory implications of his proximity to those who were "to be publicly reviled".

Although he shared his London display with Piggott, a suicide, Mrs Maybrick, a poisoner, and Scott, another in the Ardlammont case who was on the run, he appeared in Birmingham in the company of, among others, Queen Victoria and the Archbishop of Canterbury.

Had the latter pair thought to sue, one feels the case would have been even stranger and more jolly still.

Yours faithfully,
JONATHAN RUFFELL,
St Catherine's College,
Cambridge.
January 13.

THE TIMES

BUSINESS NEWS

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Anomalies of
shop hours
legislation
page 19

Stock markets
Ft 100 446.0, down 1.4
FT 100 68.47, up 0.08
Sterling
\$ 2.3970, up 35 points
Index 79.4, up 0.1
Dollar
Index 86.8, down 0.2
DM 1.9925, down 78pts
Gold
\$ 539.50, down 55
Money
3 mth sterling 14 1/4-14 1/2
3 mth Euro \$ 181-183
6 mth Euro \$ 174-184

Government is ready to assist Talbot

The Government is ready to assist with any investment that Talbot wished to make at the Linwood car plant in Renfrewshire, Mr Alex Fletcher, Under-Secretary of State for Scotland, said yesterday.

The Government would be "only too pleased" to discuss investment with the company at its meeting between Sir Keith Joseph, the Secretary of State for Industry, and the chief executive of PSA, Talbot's owner.

His comments came during Question Time in the Commons when he denied reports that Mr George Young, the Secretary of State for Scotland, had been discussing the future of Talbot with Japanese or other foreign car companies.

Sir Keith met MPs from Scotland and the west Midlands in a meeting when he expressed his support for the future of Talbot and Sir Keith was pressed to discover what was happening in the French-owned company.

Scanning assets

Philips Medical Systems has acquired the remaining assets of EMI's medical computerized tomography (CT) scanning business and will have exclusive collaboration with Thorn EMI on continuing research on CT scanning. This also includes a settlement concerning all EMI's CT scanner patents and gives Philips full rights to use them.

Hunting Gibson bids

Hunting Gibson has emerged as the bidder for the Stag Line shipping group with a £4.4m cash offer worth 35p a share. Roper Holdings, with a near 30 per cent stake, has agreed to accept, but the board of Stag has yet to consider the offer.

Venture capital

A joint enterprise between the Highland and Islands Development Board, the Bank of Scotland and Industrial and Commercial Finance Corporation, to provide risk capital for business ventures in the Scottish Highlands has been formed. Sir Kenneth Alexander, chairman of the board, said in Glasgow that the enterprise would be called Highland Venture Capital and would aim to provide between £25,000 and £300,000 to promising projects.

More life annuities

The annual premium figures for life assurance annuities increased in 1980 by 16 per cent from £1.6m to £1.8m. This compares with a 17 per cent increase in 1979.

'Significant' oil find

Phillips Petroleum said tests of its "T" block appraisal well in the United Kingdom sector of North Sea showed "significant hydrocarbon amounts" on drill tests of two zones. The well is about two miles south-east of the Thelma discovery on block 16/17.

Wall Street higher

The Dow Jones industrial average closed 1.37 points up at 968.47. The S-DJR rate was 1.26873. The £ was 0.529962.

PRICE CHANGES

Rises

Allied Colloids 11p to 110p
Glaxo Hides 5p to 33p
Lamo 7p to 70p
Maggie & Son 11p to 110p
Merrill House 5p to 30p

Falls

Anglo Am Corp 38p to 62p
Bovril Rand 31p to 30p
Berkeley Exp 17p to 20p
Chimble & Hild 4p to 42p
Cons Gold Fields 12p to 47p

THE POUND

| Bank | Bank | Bank | Bank |
|----------------------|----------|----------------------|--------|
| Australia 2.11 | 2.03 | Norway Kr 12.83 | 12.28 |
| Austria Sch 35.30 | 33.30 | Portugal Esc 134.00 | 128.00 |
| Belgium Fr 79.50 | 76.00 | South Africa Rd 2.15 | 2.00 |
| Canada Cdn 2.32 | 2.24 | Spain Ptas 166.00 | 187.50 |
| Denmark Kr 15.20 | 14.50 | Sweden Kr 11.00 | 10.50 |
| Finland Mk 9.65 | 9.20 | Switzerland Fr 4.47 | 4.26 |
| France Fr 11.35 | 10.90 | USA \$ 2.45 | 2.45 |
| Germany DM 4.34 | 4.72 | Yugoslavia Dn 83.50 | 78.50 |
| Greece Dr 128.00 | 122.00 | | |
| Hong Kong \$ 12.65 | 12.05 | | |
| Ireland Pt 1.32 | 1.27 | | |
| Italy Lira 2,370.00 | 2,260.00 | | |
| Japan Yen 213.00 | 207.00 | | |
| Netherlands Gld 5.35 | 5.12 | | |

Treasury chief's pre-budget pledge to stick with monetary targets

By John Whitmore
Financial Correspondent

The first major shot in the Government's attempt to restore credibility in its medium term financial strategy ahead of the Budget was fired by Mr Nigel Lawson, Financial Secretary to the Treasury, in Zurich yesterday.

Mr Lawson told the Zurich Society that the Government was determined to keep to its path of progressive cuts in the real level of public spending and reduce the rate of monetary expansion.

He said that, although the broad money supply had been running well ahead of the target rate, overall monetary conditions in the United Kingdom had not been inflationary so far.

It was essential from now on to secure a lower rate of growth of broad money, he said, and over the three remaining years of the medium term financial strategy it might well be prudent to claw back at least some of the excess growth that has already occurred.

While giving official recognition to the fact that the public sector borrowing requirement (PSBR) for the present financial year was likely to be above the Chancellor's revised November estimate of £1,500m, Mr Lawson showed more confidence about prospects for next year.

He said there was "no reason to suppose that next year's borrowing requirement cannot be brought back more or less on track by which I mean the 3 per cent of gdp set out in the medium term financial strategy plus the automatic consequences" for public finances of gdp in

1981-82 being lower than forecasted, for illustrative purposes, when the medium term financial strategy was published almost a year ago.

Mr Lawson added that making allowance in the PSBR for the deepening of the recession did not mean that the brakes were off. He pointed to the fact that the Chancellor had already announced measures to raise additional revenue next year and said that so far under the present Government there had been an increase in the real burden of taxation in pursuit of the principles of sound finance.

Laying considerable emphasis on the need to control public spending, Mr Lawson also emphasised the problems of controlling the PSBR with precision. That was why it was necessary to have improved funding and monetary control techniques.

Mr Lawson said that Britain was unusual in having the central bank responsible for financing the Government's budget deficit. "But this oddity should not be allowed to become an impediment to what needs to be done."

Mr Lawson was optimistic on the general outlook for the economy. "We have now more or less reached the bottom, and better times are clearly in sight," he said.

Unemployment was likely to continue to rise in 1981, however, though not at the rate seen in 1980. Any attempt to pump more money into the system in order to create more jobs in the short term would merely ensure fewer jobs and still higher unemployment in the future. That was not a price the Government was prepared to pay.

Directors 'worst paid' in relation to duties

By Edward Townsend

Company directors are some of the best paid people in the country but in relation to their responsibilities, some of them are among the worst paid.

This is a conclusion of a survey of directors' rewards carried out in conjunction with the Institute of Directors. It shows that the median salary for executive directors is £18,475 a year, plus the use of a company car, a contributory pension and probably private health and life insurance cover.

In return, the average director works a 40-hour "formal" week plus "informal" 15 hours and receives a theoretical five weeks annual holiday.

Not surprisingly, the survey shows that the top directors of big companies are paid far more than their counterparts in small companies. The managing director of a company with a turnover of more than £100m should be earning about £35,500, but this drops to £14,350 in a firm with sales of less than £1m.

Reward Regional Surveys of Staffordshire, the compiler of the survey, attempts to prove that directors' life styles have deteriorated in the last year.

Directors' salaries are said to have risen by 17 per cent in the 12 months to October, 1980, with performance bonuses increasing by about 12 per cent. Fringe benefits have been cut back rather than increased. A rise in earnings of about half as much again is estimated to have been needed to maintain living standards.

Take the case of the senior director who has a 58 per cent mortgage on a 5-6 bedroom, centrally heated detached house. As well as rates and telephone charges he pays for his golf club subscription, a 2500cc private car and eats out about 250 times a year. He drinks and smokes, spends about £1,200 a year on clothes, has a "daily help" for 182 hours a year and provides day school fees.

Last September he would have needed to be paid £39,265 a year to afford such a life style and to save about £1,200. This would have meant a salary increase of 28.5 per cent in the 12 months.

Some of the controversial fringe benefits introduced at the time of high marginal tax rates have disappeared and there is "a clear dash for cash". Very few directors benefit from company financed school fee schemes, or subsidised housing, or even have their private telephone bills paid. Most directors apparently have to be content with a pension, life insurance and a car.

Non-executive directors emerge as the lowest paid of all. In small and medium-sized companies they spend 24 days a year on their duties and receive an average of £2,000. At £83 a day, this is said to be well below the daily rate of a professional consultant.

The report says: "The money/peanuts analogy applies - if you pay peanuts there is a danger of getting a part-time monkey screwing up the works and defeating the whole object of non-executive directors."

Directors' Rewards, Reward Regional Surveys, 1 Mill Street, Stone, Staffordshire, £28.

Sir Leslie Murphy angry over 'dogma and prejudice' hampering board NEB a 'victim of political strife'

By Kenneth Owen

A bitter attack on both main political parties and on Sir Keith Joseph, Secretary of State for Industry, for their treatment of the National Enterprise Board, was made last night in London by Sir Leslie Murphy, former chairman of the NEB.

Sir Leslie and his colleagues on the NEB board resigned in November, 1979, over the decision to switch responsibility for monitoring Rolls-Royce from the NEB to the Department of Industry.

Addressing the Royal Institute of Public Administration last night, Sir Leslie said that the NEB had become another example of the continuous strife between the two main parties on how to deal with industry.

In this strife, the merits of the case are ignored, he said. "The left wing of the Labour Party continues to press for more and more public ownership, ignoring the mixed record of the publicly owned corporations over the last 30 years."

"The right wing of the Conservative Party sees no merit in anything except private enterprise and market forces, ignoring the failures of the first and the gains in the second."

What a relief it would be to have a government that addressed itself objectively to find the best solution of each problem, and put away dogma and prejudice. If the Conservative Party were to take us along this road, I for one would be an enthusiastic supporter."

In trying to overcome "the handicaps with which we were lumbered initially", the NEB had approached its tasks in commercial fashion, and had not needed the kind of management changes in its subsidiary companies; kept away from any involvement in planning agreements; refused to acquire shares in profitable companies as an end in itself; and not used its financial strength to acquire companies against the wishes of the shareholders.

This was a very rapid rate of growth, starting from scratch, and Sir Leslie said he would have preferred to have taken it more slowly.

Discussing the NEB's five main roles,



Sir Leslie Murphy: "We tried to do too much too soon, and there was some inadequate market research."

the former board chairman first listed the role as a state-owned industrial holding company. Despite what Sir Arthur Knight, the chairman, had said in the board's 1979 annual report, the role of the NEB in relation to BL - before the resignation of Sir Leslie and his board - was neither illusory nor minor."

It was the NEB that stopped BL's £150m foundry programme, because it could not be justified, Sir Leslie stressed. It was the NEB that stopped the company's plans to build a new £65m centralized engineering centre. It was the NEB that reduced BL's 1979 funds from the £300m requested to £150m.

And though government approval was necessary, it was the NEB which removed the chairman and chief executive of BL and appointed Sir Michael Edwards instead.

The role of monitoring BL's performance and approving plans and programmes was best performed by "an industrial holding company composed of senior businessmen and trade unionists" rather than by ministers and civil servants.

"Had it not been for the decisiveness of the NEB, I do not think that ministers and civil servants would have made the management changes in BL that were essential for its future. And in the case of Rolls-Royce they showed a marked reluctance to allow the NEB to take the action that the board judged to be necessary."

The second main role of the NEB was the development of an industrial strategy. The board made some progress towards this before the change of government in 1979. Unfortunately, the new Government did not believe in an industrial strategy.

Sir Leslie said he agreed with Mrs

Thatcher that inflation must be brought down; that wage and salary increases must be paid for by increased productivity; and that industry must become more competitive.

"But these exhortations alone are not enough; we shall fail to cure the deepest problems that afflict our society - unemployment, decrease in living standards, falling behind in the technological race - unless we develop an effective industrial strategy."

The remaining three roles of the NEB were support for small companies, support for exports and support for regional initiatives. In the 1980 Industry Act Sir Keith Joseph had repealed the NEB's duty to promote industrial democracy and Sir Leslie did not think the end of this had been heard.

The total borrowing powers of the NEB were substantially reduced. "This was stupid," Sir Keith now has to go back to Parliament to increase them to where they were before, how humiliating."

The function of reorganization and reconstruction was abolished. Sir Leslie said he had mixed feelings about this, but on balance thought this was a mistake. Last, Sir Keith imposed the duty of disposal of firms in liquidation. "Here again, I think that the Secretary of State erred in forcing disposals on the NEB irrespective of the effect this would have on its financial performance."

In summary, Sir Leslie said he claimed that the NEB taking into account the political controversy and short time it had been in existence, had performed much better than could have been expected. It had had successes and some failures; it had shown great resolution and decisiveness in dealing with BL and Rolls-Royce. It had taken important initiatives in high technology.

"But the NEB has been severely shaken by the successive traumas which have overtaken it since the election. The principal reason for this is the Secretary of State himself."

"For although on numerous occasions he tells the House of Commons that the NEB has a role - not as wide as under the Labour Government, but nevertheless important - he also makes it clear that he himself does not really believe in the NEB and hopes that in time it will wither away."

"I am not alone in forecasting that 1981 will bring great difficulties to British industry. I am sure that we shall see a gradual change in the attitude of the Government towards the NEB and more firms get into difficulty. I just hope that the Secretary of State will give sufficient backing and support to the NEB so that it will be able to perform satisfactorily when its services are more and more in demand."

Watney to cut London workforce by 250

By Derek Harris

Watney London, a division of Grand Metropolitan's Watney Mann and Truman Breweries, is to make 250 workers redundant. Its Watneyhead brewery in July under a rationalization plan that will switch keg filling to the company's more modern Morlake complex.

It brings the total of redundancies recently announced in the recession-hit brewery industry near to the 1,500 mark.

As well as trimming by means of redundancies, an increasing number of brewers are going on to short-time working and overtime is being severely restricted.

Over time at a regional distribution centre in Northampton, another redundancy announcement came from Eldridge Pope, the Dorset brewers, which expects to dismiss about 20 workers.

Watney was the first to bring in short-time working, with a four-day week for 550 of its Norwich Brewery, Ansell's, the west Midlands arm of Allied Breweries, put 800 workers on a

four-day week last Monday. At Mitchell's and Butlers, subsidiary of Bass, talks on 76 voluntary redundancies are being held, and Bass North is cutting manning by natural wastage.

The biggest shutdown has still to come in the spring and later when 690 jobs disappear with the closure of a brewery and bottling plant by Courage, the Imperial Group subsidiary.

The brewery near Tower Bridge, London, closes in March and the bottling plant at nearby Southwark next year.

Some 350 jobs are to go at Watneyhead, 200 of them in the North-west and the remainder in London.

All these belt-tightening moves have come as the brewers, hit by production declines of as much as 10 per cent in the past six months, face the quietest part of the production year before retail outlets start stocking for what is normally a spring upturn.

But questions are now raised over how far the spring will restore the industry's battered fortunes.

Shell, Esso and Mobil rises put 5p on petrol

By Nicholas Hirst
Energy Correspondent

Shell, Esso and Mobil increased the wholesale price of their petrol from midnight last night. With the addition of VAT, most garages are expected to put 5p a gallon on pump prices.

Texaco and BP were still considering their prices yesterday but will shortly announce similar increases to put the average price of their four-star petrol to around 135p a gallon.

The increases come after rises in crude oil prices put into effect by members of the Organisation for Petroleum Exporting Countries (Opec) in the Indonesian island of Bali last month.

The Opec agreement allowed increases of a maximum 54 a 35-gallon barrel. Some countries such as Indonesia, Venezuela, Algeria and Nigeria have raised their prices by only 53 a barrel but others such as Kuwait, Qatar and Libya have implemented the full permitted rise. Iran yesterday announced a rise of \$2 to \$37. Its prices were far higher than those of other comparable crudes before the Bali meeting and remain among the highest of all Opec members. Saudi Arabia remains the cheapest Opec producer, having raised its price by only \$2 to \$32.

Competition forced the large oil companies first to reduce the wholesale price of their petrol in July and then to offer special help to retailers so they could protect their market share. This support ended in December and with the latest price rises the cost of petrol will have risen 10p in little over a month.

With the war between Iran and Iraq continuing, there remains the possibility of further increases later in the year. Both Iran and Iraq have been able to export some crude recently but much less than the quantities shipped before the war.

Bonn hears Turkish case for more aid

From Peter Norman
Bonn, Jan 14

Mr Turgut Ozal, Turkey's deputy minister, arrived in Bonn today to continue his efforts to obtain Western assistance for solving his country's economic problems.

After talks in London with Turkey's bankers to discuss the possible rescheduling of more than \$3,000m of debt, Mr Ozal today met Dr Horst Schulmann, State Secretary in the Bonn Finance Ministry, and Dr Dieter von Wurzen, State Secretary in the Ministry of the Economy.

According to Turkish diplomatic sources, Mr Ozal gave details of the present state of the Turkish economy and reported on his talks with the bankers earlier this week.

Although Mr Ozal has made clear that he would like the West to provide a third financial aid package for Turkey this year, the sources said he did not ask the Bonn officials for cash today.

It is understood that Mr Ozal would like the members of the Organisation for Economic Co-operation and Development to

provide Turkey in 1981 with rather more than the \$1,200m worth of financial aid provided last year.

In 1980 Herr Hans Matthiöfer, the West German Finance Minister, played a key role in putting the aid package together, but officials in Bonn were uncertain whether he would be willing to do the same this year.

Herr Matthiöfer is a social democrat and, therefore, no natural friend of military regimes such as the one that now rules in Turkey. He is also having to cope with an extremely tight budget situation at home where in the words of one of his officials "every million counts".

On the other hand the Bonn Government would, undoubtedly, like to see that talks on revising the terms of Turkey's bank debts succeed.

Talks on the restructuring of Western loans to Turkey are expected to resume in about 10 days. After the meeting in London on Tuesday the 30 banks would so they were sympathetic to Turkey's plans for economic reconstruction and repayment of \$21,000m (£8,780m).

Minister gives warning on Shipbuilders' future

By John Huxley

Only the most substantial and rapid improvement in productivity and efficiency could give British Shipbuilders the prospect of a sound future, the Earl of Gowrie, Minister of State for Employment, said yesterday.

His remarks came as officials of the state-owned corporation were meeting representatives of the Confederation of Shipbuilding and Engineering Unions in London to discuss further cuts in the workforce.

The meeting, which was adjourned last night after six hours, was one of many aimed at achieving an orderly restructuring of British Shipbuilders' activities.

It is understood that union leaders were told that about 3,200 jobs must be lost over the next few months. Ship repair has been widely regarded as the most likely target for further job cuts, with Vespers Shiprepair, Southampton, being singled out for possible closure.

It is understood that no conclusive decision was taken on the future of Vespers.

Last November the Government announced that British Shipbuilders' cash limit for the year was being raised by £65m from the original £120m. A

month later the corporation disclosed losses for the first six months of the present financial year of £57m.

Lord Gainsford, speaking in the House of Lords, yesterday asked if the Government was satisfied with the level of efficiency of British Shipbuilders and that the £65m advanced to them would not be used for overmanning or to meet high wage demands.

The Earl of Gowrie replied: "His concern is a proper one. This is more a matter for the board of BS than ourselves. We have urged upon the board that they improve their competitive position as a result of the sub-

sidies being given to them."

Three appointments to the board of British Shipbuilders were announced by Sir Keith Joseph, Secretary of State for Industry. Mr Peter Byrom, an executive director of N. M. Rothschild and Sons, merchant bank, and Mr Cameron Parker, managing director of BS's new offshore division, became part-time members for two years.

Mr Bill Richardson, chairman of Vickers Shipbuilding Group, Vespers Thornycroft (UK) and Barclay Curle, who has been a part-time member for the past three and a half years, is to have his term extended a further two years.

Firms deny plans to pull out of the market despite lack of profits Steel-nerved jobbers keep their options open

The next four months will be a testing time for those steel-nerved stockjobbers who have failed to make a profit from the traded options market since it started nearly three years ago, but are carrying on hoping for better times.

When London joined Chicago and Amsterdam and introduced what was described as "a professional market" - certainly not for widows or orphans - hopes were high.

But yesterday two of the five jobbers involved in making a market in 17 stocks - where at present dealers can only speculate on shares going up - admitted privately that they have not made a penny for at least two years.

The big stockjobbing firms such as Wedd Durlacher Mor-

darsch which says it is not preparing to scale down its involvement. "We have five dealers on the pitch and have had for five years. We have not made any money at it, but we have not discussed it," a representative said.

It is understood that Bisgood may scale down its options activity if the level of business does not improve. Although no time limit has been placed on when that kind of decision will be taken, May is thought to be the likely time of any review.

Stockjobbers need a high level of business to make their profit. The number of options contracts peaked at 2,106 a day in March, 1979, when people were betting on a Conservative Government. The following month the contracts dropped to 1,508 a day and continued to

drop to a low point of 344 in August of that year.

But business improved last year and average number of daily contracts in July, when people were gambling on the new Finance Bill, was 1,434. Erratic trading through the second half of last year ended in a daily average number of contracts in December of 766.

It is estimated that contracts need to number around 1,500 a day for the jobbers to make a profit.

Mr Steen said: "What we need is education, not only of brokers but of investors generally. This market has enormous scope but we must go and tell the brokers about it which we have singularly failed to do."

Philip Robinson

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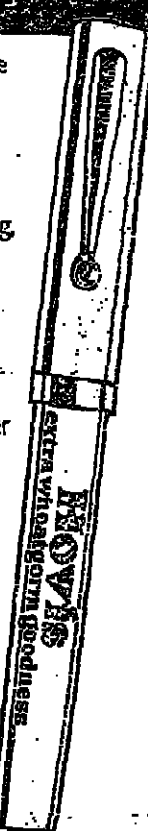
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Fiat team in Moscow for £33m heavy vehicles deal

A team from Fiat-Alfas, Fiat's earth-moving subsidiary, is in Moscow to conclude an \$80m (£33.47m) agreement for the sale of 300 crawler loaders to the Soviet Union.

The units, designed for heavy road and excavation work, weigh on average 63 tons and have 450 hp engines.

Fiat-Alfas regards the contracts as particularly important because they represent about 10 per cent of its 1980 sales.

\$218m soyabean sale

Brasil is to sell 700,000 tonnes of soyabean to the Soviet Union in the first direct transaction between the two nations. At present prices, the sale is worth more than £218m (£92m).

Honda to raise sales

Honda is planning to sell 1.08 million cars in Japan and overseas this year, 15.3 per cent more than in 1980.

Retail stores venture

Negotiations are under way between Japan and South Korea to open joint-venture department stores in the Japanese cities of Osaka, Fukuoka and Kanazawa to handle general Korean products, including textiles, food and traditional crafts.

OECD prices

Consumer prices in member countries of the Organization for Economic Cooperation and Development rose 0.3 per cent in November, unchanged from October. Over the 12 months to end-November prices rose 12.4 per cent.

China industry loans

The People's Bank of China will extend medium and short-term loans worth 1,000m yuan (£29.6m) this year to light and textile industries.

EEC order for Olivetti

Olivetti of Ivrea has signed a 5.3 million European Currency Unit (£2.12m) contract with the EEC for an electronic computer programming system adopted by the Community Council. The British consultancy firm, Systems Designers, is acting as commission agent.

Dollar's importance in calculations cut by weighting on 1977 trade flows

A new way of looking at sterling

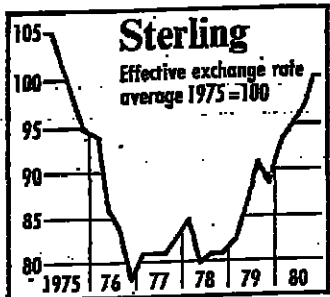
Mr Nigel Lawson, the Financial Secretary to the Treasury, announced yesterday that the basis for calculating sterling's effective exchange rate would be revised from the beginning of next month. The index measures changes in the pound's value against a basket of world currencies, weighted according to their importance in world trade.

From February 2 the Bank of England will calculate the effective exchange rate index using weights based on 1977 trade flows, instead of 1972, to match those now published by the International Monetary Fund.

This has the effect of reducing substantially the dollar's importance in the index, its weight falling from one third to one quarter, and means that the index will be rather less sensitive to dollar changes in future.

In addition, the index is to be rebased from February 2 so that 1975 average exchange rates = 100, in common with related United Kingdom economic series.

The present index uses December 18, 1971 to equal 100, and the index will be based on average daily London closing



rates rather than on middle rates.

The revised index, which has been calculated back to 1975, shows movements in sterling's effective rate very similar to those shown by the present index.

For comparison, last Friday the present sterling index closed at 79.1, while on the new basis it was 102.0.

Why an effective exchange rate index?

For more than 25 years after the Second World War, the world's major currencies were fixed in terms of the American currency.

Despite shifts in the value of certain currencies from time to time, exchange rates were relatively stable by today's standards and changes in a cur-

rency's rate against the dollar provided a reasonable indication of changes in its rate against other currencies as well. In 1971 the stresses and strains of maintaining a system of fixed exchange rates became more than the world monetary system could bear.

The pound, in common with other currencies, was floated in 1972. Floating exchange rates have produced greater instability in rates. Changes in a currency's value against the dollar no longer provide a reliable guide to its change against other currencies.

Earlier this week, for example, the pound was falling against the dollar but appearing strong against European currencies.

To overcome this problem, indices of "effective" leading exchange rates have been devised and published for all the currencies. The index for sterling has been calculated daily by the Bank of England since 1973.

The index is designed to answer the question: "What uniform percentage change in the sterling exchange rate would have had the same effect on the United Kingdom's trade balance as the set of changes

that have actually taken place?"

For the revised index, 18 countries are included in the weights (Yugoslavia, Hongkong and Taiwan have been dropped).

The weights come from an International Monetary Fund exchange rate model and reflect, in addition to world trade flows, the impact of exchange rate changes on import and export prices and how this affects trade patterns.

The dollar is the single most important currency in the sterling index, with a weight of 24.6 per cent in the revised version compared with the present 32.8 per cent. It is followed in order of importance by the Deutsche mark, the yen and the French franc.

The fall in the dollar's weight is matched by increases in the weight of currencies such as the Irish punt, the yen, the guilder and the lira.

Two new exchange rate indices are to be published regularly in *Financial Statistics*, published monthly — sterling against the dollar alone, and sterling against the eight currencies participating in the European Monetary System.

Frances Williams

Group will promote awareness of teletext and viewdata systems

By Bill Johnstone

A new group has been formed in the wake of a conference in London to coordinate plans for marketing Britain's teletext and viewdata systems.

The steering group will represent manufacturers, the Government, retailers and other interested groups in an attempt to advance the awareness of the services to the public.

Addressing the conference, Mr Kenneth Baker, Minister of State for Industry and Information Technology, emphasized that the British inventions "must be promoted, because of the commercial and industrial benefits that can accrue to the nation".

The announcement of the steering group coincided with a statement from Philips that it intends to conduct trials in Bournemouth, Brighton, Harrogate and Norwich to test the domestic market's reaction to Prestel, British Telecom's viewdata system.

The mood of the conference and the Philips initiative reflects the disappointment among manufacturers of television sets and auxiliary equipment in the slow progress that teletext and viewdata is making, particularly in the domestic market.

The two teletext systems are Ceefax, operated by the BBC and Oracle, run by Independent Television.

Both services are available on television sets which have been

adapted to allow access to pages of information. The information is broadcast with the picture but requires a decoder within the set. Such a set costs about 30 per cent more.

The Prestel sets allow access via telephone to information collated on British Telecom's computer. These sets are considerably cheaper than ordinary colour television sets, at about £950.

Last year 1.9 million colour sets of all sizes were sold in the United Kingdom of which 90,000 were for teletext and only 5,000 for Viewdata. In all there are about 100,000 teletext sets and 7,500 viewdata sets in the country.

Progress by both services has been disappointing. Surveys by Philips suggest that the teletext systems should have more local content.

Mullard has developed a new chip which will be used on Prestel sets and by the end of this year could significantly reduce the price.

Mr Philips believes that, although price is a factor, more information is needed to find out what the public actually wants from Prestel. The company's year-long survey will begin in April.

The price of the set is dictated by demand. More public awareness of the services could increase demand.

Manufacturers in the consumer electronics business are keen on this market being better defined. Colour television sets are highly advanced



Mr Kenneth Baker emphasized that British inventions must be promoted because of the commercial and industrial benefits that could accrue.

products, which cost the average person two and a half weeks' wages instead of about 12 weeks' wages in 1969 when colour television were introduced in the United Kingdom.

The other nine and a half weeks of consumer spending potential are what manufacturers want to attract in their new products. At the forefront are teletext and viewdata equipment.

Japanese accuse EEC over colour TV imports

Tokyo, Jan 14.—A top official of the Electronic Industries Association of Japan accused European producers today of "artificially" holding up the European Economic Community to impose curbs on imports of colour television sets and tubes from Japan to control the EEC market themselves.

Mr Toshio Takai, executive vice-president of the association, said that Philips, of The Netherlands, and Thomson, of France, had been behind the apparently growing move inside the EEC to restrict imports from Japan.

"Frankly, we cannot understand why they (the EEC) are making such a fuss," he said. "The only thing we can think of is that Philips and Thomson are pressuring some members of the European Commission and trying to block us and obtain control of the market themselves."

Mr Takai said that, despite the mounting tide of protectionism, the Japanese electronics industry had no intention to restrict exports.

In an attempt to counter the criticisms, the association sent letters this month to EEC member governments as well as to industries within the region. The letters said that the present campaign against imports of Japanese tubes and colour television sets was only to disguise strategic mistakes and that it did not solve the real problems that the European electronics industry was facing.

Japan's exports of most electronics products to the EEC have been growing rapidly in recent years. According to statistics compiled by the finance ministry on the basis of customs clearance, exports of colour television sets in the first 11 months of last year totalled 648,692 units, a 39.6 per cent increase on the same period in 1979.

Shipments of video tape recorders rose 145 per cent during the period to 1.132 million units, while those of colour television tubes rose 22.6 per cent to 2.54 million units—AP-Dow-Jones.

SE chief backs new technology

By Rosemary Unsworth

New technology exists to change business methods and the twin spurs of market competition and inflationary costs are overcoming reluctance to change, Mr Nicholas Goodison, chairman of the Stock Exchange, said yesterday.

Speaking at a symposium organized by the Stock Exchange on the effects of technology for the investment community at the Painters' Hall in London, Mr Goodison stressed the importance of first class communications if London was to remain the financial centre of the world.

He explained that the development of the necessary technical services and communication systems depended on close cooperation and exchange of views between the organizations which will be affected, if there is to be efficiency.

"The introduction of the Telescreen settlement system was a major and expensive exercise involving an enormous amount of technical discussion and negotiation with a great many participants," he said.

He drew attention to some of the Stock Exchange's other contributions to the development and application of new technology, including the transfer of the Daily Official List to microfiche and the registration at the Post Office of the first electronic newspaper.

He pointed out that, a few months ago, "we set about establishing a city consultative committee to review proposals for computerized book entry settlement procedures for securities in this country, parallel to the arrangements that already exist in North America and some European countries".

Investment income tax

From Mr D. G. Lindsay

Sir, I am surprised that the Stock Exchange in its plea for the removal of "unfair" taxes on savings (January 9) did not mention the need for a requirement of aggregation of a wife's investment income with her husband's income for tax purposes, which results in her income being subject to a much higher rate of tax than would have been the case had the income been "earned".

It had been single—or, indeed, than would have been the case had the investment income been that of her husband, and the wife been the earner.

No one has had a good word to say for aggregation since it was removed from earned income in 1971, but it seems that it needs a final shove by a body with the clout of the Stock Exchange if we are finally to see this nasty discriminatory piece of legislation off the statute books.

Yours faithfully,
D. G. LINDSAY,
36, Orchardcombe,
Hitchin, Herts.
Berkshire, RG5 7QL,
January 9.

From Mr E. C. L. Hulbert-Powell
Sir, I would like to support the Stock Exchange's call for abolition of the investment income surcharge and to stress the unfairness of this tax. The Tax Payers' Society has urged this reform, together with phasing out of the capital gains tax, for several years.

The surcharge is not merely a discouragement to savings. We find that it is particularly resented by a very large section of our members, both at home and overseas, because savings built up during a lifetime of work are now taxed as "unearned income".

Yours faithfully,
E. C. L. HULBERT-POWELL,
Director,
Tax Payers' Society,
40, Doughty Street,
London, WC1,
January 9.

House of Fraser dilemma
From Mr D. C. B. Edwards
Sir, Oh Mr Editor, what should I do? I've got shares in Lanchester, Fraser, Legal & General, too!

Joking apart, though, Fraser shareholders have been bombarded from all directions for weeks, and have to make up their minds in the next few days. While I have no doubt that it will be the institutions who will win the day, perhaps individual shareholders should consider what personal stakes Mr Rowland and Sir Hugh Fraser have in their respective companies, and appreciate that the former "put his money where his mouth is", while the latter, according to the latest company report, does not.

Yours faithfully,
D. C. B. EDWARDS,
10, Portersmouth, PO3 5EX,
January 8.

LETTERS TO THE EDITOR

Industrial know-how for Third World

From Mr D. Taylor

Sir, I recently received a letter from an organization called British Executive Service Overseas inviting me to send to Asia an expert from our company (which specializes in heat resistant alloy castings) to show a rival firm in a Third World country how to make similar castings of a quality to match our own.

This organization, Beso, a registered charity financed largely by the Overseas Development Administration, is preparing a bill for sending one of our experts to give away the expertise in quality production which is the only thing which keeps us ahead of our rivals in the cheap labour market of the Third World.

You can imagine my dismay when I found that this industrial fifth column claims support from the Confederation of British Industry and has an office at 116/119 Pall Mall, London, the address of the British Institute of Directors— which might be regarded as command headquarters of the fight for British industrial survival.

I am sure it will be as much a shock to the majority of your readers as it was to me, to learn that the imposing list of council members included the names of dozens of British industry; the very men whom most of us consider defenders of free enterprise exemplifying national loyalty, and who profess faith in the quality of our goods to outsell lower priced, inferior quality products made abroad.

That this so-called "charity" is counteracted for a day longer, makes a mockery of all our efforts to hold on to our remaining industries at this critical time. One wonders how many businesses have been undermined by having technological expertise subtly wrung out of advisors, sent in good faith by British firms.

An insidious aspect of this scheme is Beso's reliance on experts who are recently retired, redundant, or near the end of their service. By offering free passages, clothing allowances and all accommodation overseas, to the expert's wife as well.

My voting intention, however, is based mainly on the national condition rather than on any conditions peculiar to my company and although I believe that the company would benefit, I also believe that there would be considerable benefit for the nation if the shareholders of other companies were to adopt the course which I advocate and follow the lead which I hope my fellow shareholders will provide.

The time is now ripe for a reinforcement of those recent actions which reflect the need to bring to an end the harmful ritual of annual and substantial increases in our "earnings". Shareholders, who mostly have

well as for himself, a man is made to feel it is an honour to reveal the vital trade secrets which have kept his firm ahead in years past, and which probably provide his pension.

We shall lose no international ill-will by immediately suspending this "charity". Relief to the British tax payer may be minuscule but it could be the difference between survival or closing down yet another British business. If Beso sends an unwinding expert to equip cheap labour rival to my company.

That is why I have written to each member of the council of Beso inviting them to support my call to dismantle an organization which is a disservice to the nation. My letter says: "While acknowledging that at another time or age, there might well be room for a revival of the concept on a limited scale, this is the moment for the 'charity' to suspend its operations."

Yours faithfully,
D. TAYLOR, Chairman,
Auto Alloys Group of Companies,
Berristow Lane,
Hilcote,
Blackwell,
Derbyshire, DE55 5JB,
January 7.

Incentives for BL workforce

From Mr David Penhaligon, MP for Truro (Liberal)

Sir, I do not know whether the battle he is fighting at British Leyland, Management with a 12-hour may be getting results but it cannot herald any long term solution to British Leyland's problems.

Now surely is the time for the Government to offer encouragement to the workforce. What would it cost the Government if they promised the workforce that all profits made in the next five years would be distributed among them? Sir Keith Jervis claims to be a great believer in the profit motive; the trouble is hardly any British Leyland employee believes it will ever make any money and even if it does they know it will not directly benefit them. Obviously 100 per cent profit sharing is not a perpetual possibility but given the current situation would the Government in fact lose anything?

Yours sincerely,
DAVID PENHALIGON,
Liberal Party Spokesman for Industry,
House of Commons,
London SW1A 0AA,
January 9.

How shareholders can act in the national interest

From Mr A. H. Wright

Sir, At the AGM in February of the company of which I am both an employee and a shareholder, I intend to vote against the resolution which would approve the payment of a final dividend. This action will be pointless unless, at the meeting or through their proxy votes, at least half of the voting shareholders join me in this seemingly eccentric behaviour.

My voting intention, however, is based mainly on the national condition rather than on any conditions peculiar to my company and although I believe that the company would benefit, I also believe that there would be considerable benefit for the nation if the shareholders of other companies were to adopt the course which I advocate and follow the lead which I hope my fellow shareholders will provide.

The time is now ripe for a reinforcement of those recent actions which reflect the need to bring to an end the harmful ritual of annual and substantial increases in our "earnings". Shareholders, who mostly have

been acquiescent, are uniquely and ideally placed to indicate how they wish their income to change. A succession of shareholder votes during 1981, for the rejection or reduction of final dividend proposals, would serve as a declaration of dismissal for the deceitful concept that "living standards" must never fall or must be improved regularly.

Such a declaration, added to the evidence of the Brands report and of our own unemployment levels, might be expected to assist trade union officers and managers (who negotiate earnings), directors (who recommend dividends) and Government and Opposition (whose adversarial behaviour sadly undermines the leadership which they both should exercise), to escape from the trap in which a national habit of unrealistic expectations has imprisoned them.

Yours faithfully,
A. H. WRIGHT,
Silver Birch,
Longhill Road,
Ascot,
Berkshire SL5 8RE,
January 13.

Secretarial and Non-secretarial Appointments also on page 23

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Shareholders of HOUSE OF FRASER LIMITED



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THE LONRHO RESOLUTION

FOR AGAINST



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Hugh Fraser
Chairman

BY THE FINANCIAL EDITOR

Kenning stands out from the crowd

The year to last September was the worst for motor distributors since the end of the war. The sales slump caught them with huge stocks financed at high interest rates. Unloading these stocks led to a collapse in prices and one distributor after another has reported losses.

With companies like Braid Group, Caffyns and Bristol Street all reporting losses recently Kenning Motor, by contrast, reports pretax profits of £3.99m (against £8.45m) and a maintained gross dividend of 7.86p a share.

Kenning does well in times of recession because it sells so many other things besides cars. It is a concessionaire for John Bull Tyres, a body builder, a manufacturer of electric vehicles and an operator of motor-vehicle service areas. It even does insurance broking.

The group also shies from breaking down profits or sales, but it has a stronger balance sheet than its customers for garage companies. The balance sheet when published will show liquidity to be stronger than at the end of September, 1979. The group reports that in the past year Kenning Tyre Services did "creditably", though down on the year before, as did contract hire where the replacement cycle is longer than in car hire.

Industry estimates point to only 1.3 million or 1.4 million new cars being sold this year against 1.51 million last year when imports took 56.7 per cent of the market. Kenning reports that discounting continues on all models save the Metro but even more important, the industry now has a better balance between stocks and sales.

Last year huge stock losses should not be repeated. The group can also look forward to some easing in interest charges as these rose from £1.59m to £2.22m but to the extent that it sells more cars, finance charges will stay up. Kenning can also expect fewer competitors around this time next year.

Too much should not be expected from the Metro, however; small cars are not big profit earners, discounting could yet spread to the Metro and BL as a whole probably accounts for a lot less than 15 per cent of total profits. A professional revaluation has disclosed a property surplus over book value of £9.46m taking assets a share to 200p, but Kenning uses its assets in the business. The shares rose 11p to 68½p but the yield is still 11.6 per cent. At one time last year they were only 58p and the immediate income attraction has gone.

Magnet & Southern

Demonstrating resilience

In the timber sector Magnet & Southern remains one of the few groups to demonstrate a capacity to ride the recession. Its interim results certainly pleased the stock market; on only a 7 per cent slip in profits to £11.9m, the shares gained 8p to 118p.

Obviously, the company has not been wholly immune to the downturn in con-

struction more than two thirds of its business. This increased dependence reflects a reduced number of housing starts, and greater emphasis on repairs rather than total renewal in the present economic climate as well as a management push in that direction.

As a result, Magnet Joinery, the main strength, showed a modest profit improvement to £8.1m while Southern Evans's contribution dipped by 27 per cent to £1.9m.

Meanwhile, the group's likely profit should be around £24m against last year's £25m all underpinned by the likelihood that the Russians will prevent any softening of the timber price before the end of March to protect their customers from stock losses after a year of overstocking.

Magnet's balance sheet, with a £5m cash surplus, is strong so the shares, which now produce a 6.2 per cent yield, a slight premium rating in the sector, should continue to attract modest support.

Stag Line Ropner sells; Hunting bids

Hunting Gibson and not as previously thought Ropner Holdings turns out to be the bidder for Stag Line—the dry cargo shipping group which returned to profits last year after two years of losses.

Hunting Gibson's 355p a share cash offer, will be accompanied by a loan stock alternative, values Stag at £4.4m compared with a value at the suspension price of 260p of £3.2m.

Hunting has built up a 4.5 per cent stake itself and has also secured an irrevocable undertaking to accept from Ropner for its strategic 29.9 per cent stake.

Clearly any offer had to be well above the market price if it is to succeed. One informed analyst's estimate of Stag Line's adjusted asset value is 680p a share with a break-up value of about 350p. Additionally Stag Line, after turning round from a £636,000 pretax loss to a £214,000 profit in the year to last October, could be on course for about £700,000 pretax this year given the firmness of dry cargo rates.

It was not clear last night, however, what the Stag directors and family—who can probably account for 40 per cent of equity—will do. There have been other tentative bid approaches recently, so the possibility of a rejection cannot be ruled out.

Linford Margins under pressure

Linford shareholders, including a 20 per cent stakeholder, Guinness Peat, may still have a long wait for reorganization moves to show through in profits given the current outlook for the foods business.

But with the bulk of restructuring complete and buoyed by £11.5m rights issue proceeds the group is at least trading water reasonably successfully. Interim pretax profits down 11 per cent at £4.5m reflect a period in which cutbacks in public catering put a squeeze on the wholesale division and disappointing petrol and non-food sales pared hypermarket margins to the bone.

Despite receipt of the rights cash in mid-June overall interest charges edged up fractionally to over £2m, partly reflecting the two warehouse closures and new store openings. Even so, net gearing at the year end is likely to show a significant reduction from last year's end's 85 per cent level.

The shares which eased 1p to 141½p yesterday on the announcement of a maintained dividend still lean more on defensive merits than scope for growth. But a yield of over 11 per cent, assuming a same again final grows particularly brightly in the foods sector.

Meanwhile, profits this year seem unlikely to improve much on last year's £9.5m, but with Linford maintaining volume, the interim figures reflect a pretax margin pared to less than 1 per cent.

The hope is that following a reorganization which has brought around 15 different companies under three divisions, Linford can return to a more traditional margin in the 2 per cent range and for this reason a likely fully-taxed p/e ratio of even 13 times may not be excessive.

Economic notebook

Getting out of limbo

As the Government sets about drawing up its Budget the inevitable starting point has to be acceptance that many of the numbers inscribed on the tablet of last spring's medium-term financial plan have been rendered meaningless.

What, then, is the Government to do about monetary policy? At the moment we are in limbo. The authorities are doing their best to rein back the growth of sterling M3 (notes and coin in circulation plus resident sterling bank deposits), helped by slackening private sector credit demand and, hopefully, by some seasonal improvement in the government's own finances. Meanwhile, ministers and officials ponder on how best to pick up the pieces.

The one thing that is not in doubt is that the Government does have to grasp the monetary reins once more. It may well choose to give rather greater emphasis to other aspects of economic policy this time round; it may well have to emphasize the need for rather greater stability in its monetary approach; it will certainly have to write off 1980-81 as a bad job.

Fine, but it will also need to demonstrate that it still intends to work towards progressively lower rates of monetary expansion, and that means that it still requires a published monetary target.

Uncomfortable though this may be, there can be no question of a change at this stage. Indeed, the only possible reason for a major shift in approach on this front—and I ignore the policy changes that might be needed were the Government failing to hold the line on public sector pay—would be serious upward pressure on the exchange rate.

For the moment, however, the more danger must be that an open admission of a laxer monetary approach would seriously damage overseas confidence in both the Government and the currency. The one thing the Government must not do at this stage in its anti-inflation battle is a major weakening of the exchange rate.

After the abolition of exchange controls and the substantial build-up in overseas holdings of short-term liquid assets in sterling over recent years—unprecedented sterling deposits alone have more than doubled to around £11,000m in the last two years—the Government is sitting on what is potentially a much more unmanageable sterling problem than in the early seventies.

Explanation

To convince people that a sterling M3 target of, say, 6.10 per cent for 1981-82 means anything after (unadjusted) growth approaching 20 per cent in the previous 12 months is going to require more ministerial explanation than we have had to date. The Financial Secretary to the Treasury fired the opening shot in Zurich yesterday.

The second essential is that ministers need to be sure this does not sound like the underlying economy is moving in such a way as to give them at least a fighting chance of attaining their target.

It is here, of course, that we move on to trickier ground. The main reason for thinking that a 6.10 per cent target might be attainable is simply that the rate of price inflation is downwards on this occasion, not up.

As I have already suggested, a single figure annual rate of inflation in the second half of this year does not on the face of it look implausible, albeit that the Treasury has been taking a rather more cautious view. The trouble, however, is that the underlying rate of inflation (the change over six months annualized) is already into single figures. In short, could there be grounds for thinking that we are already

in the trough as far as the inflation rate goes in this particular cycle?

What is certain is that the dampening of the inflation rate over the last year owes a great deal to the effect of oil, overseas confidence and high nominal interest rates on sterling.

So the big question now is whether the Government can expect, or afford, any further benefits from sterling appreciation. If not it is going to have to rely increasingly on sharply decelerating domestic costs to maintain the downward momentum in the underlying rate of inflation. In that respect a fall in pay settlements to little more than 10 per cent overall in the current pay round would seem to be needed.

That should not be an unreasonable expectation. But what the Government will obviously be keen to see is public sector pay settlements held as close to 6 per cent as possible to achieve the kind of swing in the relative price effect—the difference between public sector cost changes and price changes in the economy as a whole—needed to contain the public sector borrowing requirement and by extension to lend belief to the monetary target.

Tax increases

If it can do this, then tax increases may not need to be so substantial to produce a prospective public spending borrowing requirement in the £10,000m-£12,000m range. If, however, the originally proposed 6.10 per cent sterling M3 target was indeed contemplated, then a figure nearer £10,000m would seem to be the maximum figure for comfort. Growth near the top end of the range would allow sterling M3 growth approaching £7,000m while at the midpoint permissible growth would be about £5,500m.

Taking a PSBR of £10,000m then, and assuming growth in private sector bank lending in line with inflation, around £6,000m, while at the midpoint permissible credit expansion of some £16,000m before allowing for any increase in sterling bank lending overseas.

Netting out this last item (rather cavalierly) against any increase in the non-deposit liabilities of the banks would leave the Government needing to fund just about the whole of the PSBR outside the banking system.

With the net sales target of £3,000m for National Savings next year, that might not seem to leave an impossible task in terms of gilt-edged sales. Even so the safety margins are fairly tight, given that a number of other factors could swing for or against the Government.

On the plus side it might well be that sufficient confidence in the strategy would permit the fall in long-term interest rates needed to revive the corporate bond market.

But there are at least two potentially problematic factors. The first is that the Government already has £5,500m of gilt-edged stock to refinance next year, keeping the required level of gross public sector debt sales at an uncomfortably high level.

Second, there is the potentially large unknown of flows across the exchanges.

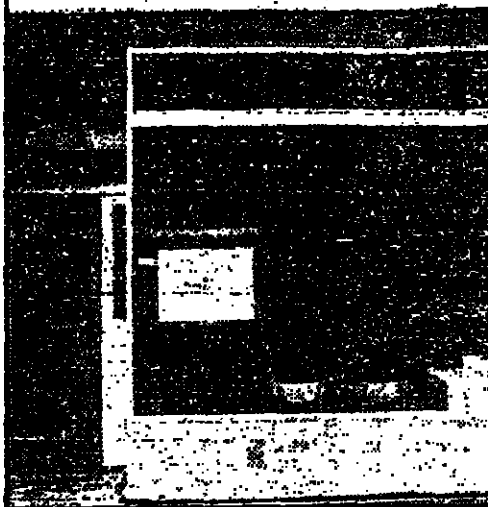
With the Treasury forecasting — optimistically? — a £2,000m current account surplus for this calendar year, there will again need to be substantial outflows on the private sector capital account to prevent external finance having an expansionary impact on the money supply.

On the plus side, the Government could afford to try and generate such an outflow by a fairly sharp cut in short-term interest rates must be open to question. In short, the Government has a big task ahead trying to restore confidence while at the same time reserving the right to flexibility which it may clearly require.

John Whitmore

CHINA HOUSE

NOT CHINESE MEALS TO TAKE AWAY



The "take away" shop on the left can sell fish and chips on a Sunday, but the fish bar, not far away in the Caledonian Road, London, is forbidden by law to sell them on that day.

Never on a Sunday, unless . . .

Robin Young examines Britain's complicated shop hours legislation

Another attack was launched yesterday upon Britain's ludicrously complicated, anomalous and widely flouted shop hours legislation. The Shops Bill, presented by Sir Anthony Meyer, Conservative MP for West Flintshire, had its first reading in the House of Commons and will have its second reading debate on February 20.

There have been one government and six private members' attempts in Parliament to win reform. All have foundered on the entrenched opposition of the Union of Shop Distributive and Allied Workers (UDAW), the shop workers' union, allied with such diverse interests as the Retail Consortium, the National Chamber of Trade and the Lord's Day Observance Society.

So it comes about that on Sundays one may legally purchase a pornographic magazine, but not the Bible; a razor blade to cut one's corncobs, but not a shave with a safety razor; a Chinese take-away, but not from a fish and chip shop.

Shop opening hours are controlled by the Shops Acts of 1950 to 1965, largely based on rules dating back to the beginning of the century. The law was written for a society in which theatres performed twice nightly, take-away food was limited to fish and chips or cooked tripe, the chemist and garage owner lived on their premises, few women went to work and people generally bought much less than they do now.

It was also, of course, a society in which shop workers were more likely to be kept at their posts all day and late into the evening.

In the name of protecting shop workers' laws were introduced at the instigation of shopkeepers to stop other shopkeepers taking trade by opening at unusual hours. They were then amended as particular cases presented the right to take advantage of things like the seasonal trade at seaside resorts or the late queues for the second house of the music hall.

The general principles of the law are clear. Shops must close by 8 pm on a weekday and 9 pm on a Saturday or one other day specified as "late night" by the local council. Shops are not allowed to open on Sunday and they must close one afternoon a week by 1 o'clock, the early-closing day.

It is the host of exceptions to these rules which complicate matters. Certain shops, including restaurants, fish and chip shops, newsagents at main stations, post offices and shops in resorts in the season can stay open as long as they like.

A special rule allows shops to sell sweets and tobacco until 5.30 pm. Chemists can sell medicines or medical appliances, and filling stations and garages petrol or accessories for cars, cycles or aeroplanes, with law so complex and illogical it is fairly easy to

find loopholes. Many Sunday markers levy a small membership fee from people who want to shop outside legal hours and claim to be private trading clubs. Other schemes have included offering carrots for sale at £150 a pound with a free bedroom suite thrown in. The biggest loophole is the impossibility for local councils of enforcing the law effectively in its present state. Many, in any case, do not wish to turn a blind eye when the law is ignored.

Opponents of reform claim that shop assistants and small retailers will be obliged to work excessive hours if the Shops Acts are changed and that extended trading hours would increase prices. But few shops keep open as late as they might at present and it is safe to say that none at all are open as long as the law would already allow.

That is because though the law says that shops must generally close by 8 pm, it is silent where they are to close, which can be any time from midnight. All shops could already be open 20 hours out of 24 on at least five days a week.

In Scotland shops do not feel obliged to open on Sundays simply because they are permitted to do so. Generally, large stores open on Sundays only as Christmas approaches.

Successive surveys by the Consumers' Association, the National Consumer Council and the Home Office—have shown that a significant minority of shoppers, working wives among them, want the opportunity of late night and Sunday trading. A large number of traders would also like the right to choose.

The Meyer Bill stands better chance of success than any of its predecessors. A Home Office inquiry has been cataloguing the sort of anomalies listed here, which already made hilarious reading when the Crathorne committee reported as long ago as 1964. Sir Anthony and his supporters are hopeful of government support, if required, in the Bill's later stages.

The Bill is drawn in a conciliatory way. It aims to tidy up and extend the complicated sets of exemptions in the schedules to the Shops Acts. It proposes to protect shop workers from having to work unreasonable hours by setting legal maxima for them. It would give local authorities the right, after consulting shopkeepers, shop workers and consumer organizations, to exempt shops in their areas from the closing requirements of the Shops Acts completely.

That would simply mean that shops in areas where exemptions were agreed would be free to open at times at which their customers wanted to shop. Surely, that is not too much to ask?

Business Diary: On the buses • China cloy

William Fairhall apparently took return ticket when he left London Transport eight years ago, to join asbestos makers Turner & Newall.

He worked for London Transport as a planner between 1970 and 1973 and then went on first to Tube Investments and then to T & N, where he became general manager, corporate planning.

Now, he is back at London Transport's Broadway headquarters in the new post of director of finance and planning. His predecessor in the former post of group financial officer, Harry Whitaker, is retiring.

For Fairhall, who is 39, it means a reunion with a colleague from way back—Mr Phillips, now the London Transport board member for finance and planning. In the early days Phillips himself reported to the board as the head of a new planning unit and Fairhall worked for him.

The new job is senior enough to tempt Fairhall and allow him to indulge in an interest from his early days—buses. After a false start reading chemistry—he took time off from college and spent a year on the buses—as a conductor with East Kent Road Car Co at Whitstable where he was then living.

He then went back to his books, taking a first in economics at University College London, and then another first in the finals of the Institute of Transport examinations.

His main job at London Transport will be to run all the financial planning and management information and control systems upon which the board draws.

Wallchart

CAN YOU IMAGINE WHEN BREAKFAST TV BECOMES A REALITY...

ALL THOSE EXECUTIVES SAT ON THE TUBE WITH PORTABLE SETS ON THEIR LAPS?

The big news of the year so far in the foreign bond market has been the invitation from the Foreign Compensation Commission for people to register by July 5 any claims for the loss of assets—excluding foreign currency bonds—lost after the communist revolution of 1949. This announcement doubled the price of sterling-denominated bonds on the Stock Exchange, although there is little confidence elsewhere that the Foreign Office is going to get either an early or a generous settlement on these bonds with the present regime in Peking.

Donald Ross, secretary of the collectors' group, The Bond and Share Society, says that as far as collectors are concerned both Chinese and Russian bonds, once the darling of this new market have dropped from their "giddy heights" of a year ago.

He added, however, that the "penny black" of scrippophily is a Chinese bond, the 1898 £500 bond of the Hongkong and Shanghai Bank—but only 19 of these are still outstanding. One fetched a record £14,000 at auction last year.

Commander Ross and his scrippophiles will be holding an auction of their own soon when they stage their First International Scrippophily Congress in London this March.

Club membership, he says, has increased from 385 to more than 600 and the fancy is now generating sidelines, ranging from jigsaw puzzles and wrapping paper to a service from a gentleman in Sweden who for £25 or thereabouts will counter upon you the dignity of "Doctor of Scrippophily".

There isn't as much money about as last year, says Commander Ross, "but collecting interest is steady and even strong at the lower end of the market, and that's a good thing, because it broadens the base."

I asked him what the non-collector might do on coming into possession of a few of these exotic documents. As befits the secretary to the society, he said that one could always join up and meet collectors (the membership secretary is B. W. Mills of 56 The Avenue, Tadworth, Surrey).

The big dealers including coin dealers, Commander Ross says, will both value for probate and buy on their own account.

Managing and sales directors will be attending meetings this week in London, and later on in Stratford upon Avon and Liverpool, where they will have an interesting idea put to them. It is: why not offer travel to the country in this country rather than abroad?

The idea comes from the English Tourist Board and is being marketed in cooperation with British Rail, travel agents Warwick West and three hotel groups: Hilton Holiday Inn and Best Western.

David Spain, ETE's manager, travel trade development, told me last night he would like not only to persuade the executives to buy British but to consider sending on incentive holidays "bread roundmen, milkmen and shopfloor employees" as well as sales executives.

So far, many of the incentive holidays offered have been to sun and sand waters in Spain, but that is not because of holidays here are now so expensive that they might be sought after. The attraction, he says, is England's infinite variety.

China has begun to export its beer in cans for the first time and they will cost more than the bottled version of its favourite brew, Tsingtao.

China has had to import the new canning materials—aluminium and die-metal foils from the United States and Japan and the main machinery for the Tsingtao canning plant from Japan.

Hongkong people are fast switching to drinking in cans mainly because they are not as bulky or heavy as bottles, says Mr Benson Lam, general manager of China Beer Company (Hongkong), which is the local agent for export of Tsingtao beer.

"And many Chinese feel that it is also unsophisticated to drink from bottles or street stalls."

The new canned beer will be exported first to Asia, and then to the United States and Europe. Beer sales in Hongkong are expanding rapidly. They were up 40 per cent last year compared with 1979.

At the only beer-tasting competition ever held in Hongkong, in 1970, China's Tsingtao came seventh out of the 18 different Asian and Australian beers sampled by seven world judges.

Washington's Capitol Hilton Hotel is to stop giving away peanuts at the bar and is to switch to pretzels. A spokesman says that there is no political motive: it is just that the price of peanuts has gone up by more than half. In any case, President-elect Reagan is a jelly-bean man.

Ross Davies

The Stockholders Investment Trust Limited

ASSETS SOAR 42%

through investment in energy and high technology

Highlights of the Year
The 42% increase in assets during the year to 31st October 1980 resulted from the emphasis placed on investment in the energy and technology sectors worldwide, which accounted for more than half the value of the Trust's portfolio at the year end. This proportion continues to increase. The accent in these sectors is on North America where the skills and inventiveness required in energy extraction and high technology are pre-eminent. Earnings per share increased by 24% and the dividend paid by 17%.

John Govett & Co. Limited
Management Group

Winchester House, 77 London Wall, London EC2N 1DH.



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| 14 | 13 |
| 51% | 51% |
| 20% | 21% |
| 36% | 39% |

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Stock Exchange Prices

Attempted rally fails

ACCOUNT DAYS: Dealings Began, Jan 12. Dealings End, Jan 23. Concom Day, Jan 26. Settlement Day, Feb 2

Forward bargains are permitted on two previous days

BELL'S
SCOTCH WHISKY
BELL'S

| 1980/81 High Low Company Price Change % P/E | | | | 1980/81 High Low Company Price Change % P/E | | | | 1980/81 High Low Company Price Change % P/E | | | | 1980/81 High Low Company Price Change % P/E | | | | 1980/81 High Low Company Price Change % P/E | | | | 1980/81 High Low Company Price Change % P/E | | | | 1980/81 High Low Company Price Change % P/E | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | |
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Recruitment Opportunities

Engineers Overseas Appointments Accountancy Finance Sales Overseas Appointments Accountancy Finance Sales Marketing General Computing Management & Executive Appointments

SENIOR EXPATRIATE-SINGAPORE

A leading International trading company engaged in a diversified range of products seeks an expatriate General Manager—Technical Products Division.

Reporting to the Managing Director Singapore, the incumbent carries full responsibility for a successful profit centre marketing high quality light engineering and building products, machinery and chemicals. Key functions of the position are business development, man management and overall administration.

The Division has marketing/sales staff of 55 in Singapore, East Malaysia and Indonesia. Some travelling to offices outside Singapore is required.

The successful candidate will probably be over 35 and will possess considerable commercial and management experience with trading companies in South East Asia. A university degree is preferable but not essential. More important is experience of technical products business and familiarity with marketing concepts.

The Company offers a good salary and expatriate benefit package, with career potential both in the region and elsewhere in the International Group.

BOX 2532 F THE TIMES

THE BRITISH COUNCIL

Director of Public Relations

Applications are invited for the new post of Director of Public Relations for the British Council.

The Director will be directly responsible to the Director General of the Council and will manage and control the services and activities of a PR Department to be established within the Council.

The Department will be concerned with the development and maintenance of planned public relations, publicity and promotional programmes for the Council, with the servicing of these activities within the Council and in particular with the training of those who will present the Council to external audiences in Britain and overseas.

The Director must present and interpret British Council policies and decisions to a wide range of audiences, ensure that there is proper feedback to management of views, attitudes and reactions and also establish systems for evaluating the services provided and the techniques used in the implementation of the PR, publicity and promotional programmes.

The appointment will be for three years. Starting salary including London Weighting £17,500 p.a.

For further details and an application form to be returned by 3 February 1981, write or phone quoting B/1 to:

Staff Recruitment Department,
The British Council,
10 Spring Gardens, London SW1A 2BN,
telephone 01-530 8466 ext. 2531 or 2544.

Joining the Army when you graduate could be a costly mistake.

Make no mistake, you would do very well to join the Army when you graduate.

But you would do even better to join up before you begin your studies.

There is no restriction on your choice of subjects, University or Polytechnic.

You won't have to attend classes in uniform, squarebush around the quadrangle or sport a pudding basin haircut.

And you'll be free to spend your holidays as you wish. Bricklaying in Birmingham or sunning yourself in Spain.

All that will separate you from your fellow students is a fixed income and a secure future.

£12,301 tax-free while you study.

If you aim to get your degree before you reach 25, apply for a 3 year Undergraduate Cadetship.

You'll pull in a salary of £3,650 in the first year, £4,099 in the second, and £4,552 in the third.

You won't have to sign your life away for the money, but you will have to undertake to serve five years after you have graduated.

You must also join the Officer Training Corps, if there is one nearby. And spend four weeks with your future Regiment each summer vacation.

The Army Bursary Scheme.

If you find the terms of the Cadetship a bit restricting, you can bump up your LEA grant with an Army Bursary.

At £900 tax-free, the amount you receive each year is lower, but then so is the commitment you are asked to make.

You are only required to serve three years as an Officer on graduation.

And while we offer bonus payments of up to £400 if you attend Officer Training and pay summer visits to your Regiment, we don't twist your arm to take them up.

A Warning.

This advertisement has made much of the money we offer undergraduates.

Attractive though it may be, it is the last reason you should apply for a commission.

An interest in the Army, the desire to tackle a challenging job, even an old-fashioned eagerness to serve one's country. These are the motives we value.

You will have ample opportunity to tell us why you wish to spend a few years in the Army.

Like any would-be Officer, you will have to attend the Army Officer Selection Board.

72 hours of written examinations, interviews and practical tests that will establish whether you have the qualities needed to succeed as an Officer.

If you are an undergraduate, or are about to become one, and are prepared to devote your energy and intellect to passing the Board, write to Major John Floyd.

Tell him your date of birth, your educational qualifications and your plans for the future.

The address is Dept.D85, Army Officer Entry, Lansdowne House, Berkeley Square, London W1X 6AA.

Army Officer

HVN TRAINING OFFICER

HTV, the Independent Television programme company for Wales and the West of England, is seeking a Training Officer.

This is a newly created post at middle management level, based in Cardiff and reporting to the Director of Operations on training matters throughout the Company. The workforce is approximately 800-strong, spread between Cardiff, Bristol, London, Mold, Bangor, Taunton and Carmarthen.

Duties will include identifying training needs for all types of staff (engineering, production, operational, managerial and clerical); planning and implementing a training programme in consultation with senior management; maintaining the effectiveness of the programme; and administering training matters.

The job calls for a graduate, with proved practical experience of training in industry, who is able to work largely on his or her own initiative, and to communicate with staff at all levels. Preferred age range: 30-40, maximum 45. Salary by negotiation. Assistance with relocation expenses if required.

Suitably qualified candidates should write for an application form to:

THE PERSONNEL MANAGER,
HTV,
CARDIFF.

Judy Farquharson Limited

17 Queen Street, London, W1X 5DF
01-530 8821

ASST. COMMERCIAL MANAGER/ESS WARWICKSHIRE

Exciting opportunity for enthusiastic, energetic, young graduate to join a leading, multi-national, commercial organisation. The successful candidate should have a degree in a relevant subject, preferably Engineering, and possess a minimum of 2 years' experience in a commercial organisation. Starting salary £6,000-£7,000 plus fringe benefits. The successful candidate should be given increased responsibility with salary to match.

SALES EXEC'S

With experience, for engineering, sports and leisure goods and hospital sales. Languages: English. Salaries £7,000-£9,000 plus benefits.

JFL RECRUITMENT CONSULTANTS

COUNTY OF AVON County Treasury

Professional Assistant (Econometrician/Statistician)

Salary Scale: P01 (1-5) £2,235-£3,150 (£3,379-£3,312 from 1st April 1981)

To undertake research into the influence on financial markets, as part of a small team responsible for the investment of a pension fund currently valued at £115 million.

Applicants should be graduates in Economics, Statistics or similar, with practical experience of applying economic techniques, or holding an appropriate post-graduate qualification. Previous experience in investment management is not required. Excellent conditions of service, including removal and other associated expenses.

For informal discussion ring Mr. R. G. Barfoot, Senior Assistant County Treasurer (Tel. Bristol 260772 Ext. 6244).

For formal discussion ring Mr. R. G. Barfoot, Senior Assistant 1981, from Director of Personnel, Tel. Bristol 28555 (Answered on this number after office hours), PO Box 11, Avon House, The Courtyard, Bristol, BS80 7DE.

Please quote reference number: TRY 8388.

BBC GERMAN LANGUAGE SERVICE REPRESENTATIVE

The BBC requires a Berlin Representative for its German Language Service. The successful candidate will be responsible for the recruitment of about 150 graduates each year, including the selection of candidates for second interviews by partners, maintaining contact with university careers and accounting departments and designing staff advertisements and recruitment literature. In addition, he/she will be required to deputise for the personnel manager in all other areas of personnel work.

Candidates should preferably have experience of graduate recruitment procedures gained in a professional office.

Applications with full C.V. to: Mrs. S. J. Cairns, Personnel Manager, Spicer and Pegler, St. Mary Axe House, 56/60 St. Mary Axe, London EC3A 8BJ.

Graduate Recruiting Officer Circa. £7,500

Spicer and Pegler is a leading firm of Chartered Accountants based in the City of London with offices throughout the United Kingdom. We have a very high reputation for the recruitment of outstanding graduates and in order to maintain this position we are anxious to recruit an Assistant for the Personnel Manager.

The successful applicant would be actively involved in the recruitment of about 150 graduates each year, including the selection of candidates for second interviews by partners, maintaining contact with university careers and accounting departments and designing staff advertisements and recruitment literature. In addition, he/she will be required to deputise for the personnel manager in all other areas of personnel work.

Candidates should preferably have experience of graduate recruitment procedures gained in a professional office.

Applications with full C.V. to: Mrs. S. J. Cairns, Personnel Manager, Spicer and Pegler, St. Mary Axe House, 56/60 St. Mary Axe, London EC3A 8BJ.

BOOK PUBLISHING

The Sales Director of Edward Arnold, publishers of school, college and university level books is looking for a young assistant to work closely with him in the Sales and Promotion of our titles to certain export areas including the Middle East. This post is essentially for a beginner, and therefore experience, while helpful, is not essential. A scientific or engineering degree would be helpful, but intelligence, the ability to work hard, using your own initiative, adaptability and common sense are vital. The successful applicant will be expected to spend up to three months a year abroad on sales and promotion trips.

Please apply in writing with a C.V. to the Sales Director, Edward Arnold (Publishers) Ltd., 41 Bedford Square, London WC1B 3DD.

COUNTRY LANDOWNERS ASSOCIATION require an

Assistant Game Fair Director

for preparation and running the annual Game Fair in future years. C.L.A. requires a part-time Assistant Director, resident within 25 miles of new Forest office in Shrewsbury. Applicants aged between 40-55 years should have fair knowledge of field sports, proven experience in Committee work and Administration, and be prepared to assist Director/Chairman in the preparation and running of the Game Fair. The successful applicant will be expected to spend up to three months a year abroad on sales and promotion trips.

Please apply in writing with a C.V. to the Sales Director, Edward Arnold (Publishers) Ltd., 41 Bedford Square, London WC1B 3DD.

TOP FINANCIAL JOURNALIST

with wide international horizons required by the largest daily newspaper in South Africa to join a team covering the fast growing economy of South Africa.

Excellent prospects for candidate capable of writing on all aspects of the financial scene, in the business capital of Johannesburg.

Attractive work conditions, tax levels, medical aid, scheme, pension fund.

Apply in first instance to:

The Managing Editor,
Argus South African Newspapers Ltd.,
85 Fleet Street, London, EC4Y 1ED
Telephone: 01-353 3765

BURNS

35 George Street, W1
Assistant designer clothes shop.
Please contact Anne Wilson for appointment, 01-496 3500.

PARTNERSHIP ACCOUNTANTS

For senior position in London chartered accountancy firm (1 office) with prospects of advancement. Knowledge of tax and ability to keep books of account to trial balance, aged 35+.

Please write with details of career to C. A. G. Hatherell, Daniel Smith Brown and Donce, 32 St James Street, London SW1A 1BT.

STUDENTS' UNION ACCOUNTS ASSISTANT

Offering to retirement the opportunity to assist in the running of a busy financial department. The successful applicant will have had substantial experience and will be able to undertake the duties of a bookkeeper. Duties will be varied but will include:

1. Dealing with cash receipts and payments to individual students and societies.

2. Dealing with the Union's bank account.

3. It is envisaged that the position of Financial Officer to the Students' Union will be held by the successful applicant for several years of satisfactory service.

SALARY RANGE: £6,371-£6,500 p.a. (inc. gov. contributory pension).

CONDITIONS OF SERVICE: The University of London is a public body. The position of Financial Officer to the Students' Union is a full-time post. The successful applicant will be expected to spend up to three months a year abroad on sales and promotion trips.

Please apply in writing with a C.V. to the Sales Director, Edward Arnold (Publishers) Ltd., 41 Bedford Square, London WC1B 3DD.

BRITISH MUSEUM Egyptian Antiquities Research Assistant

...to prepare educational material for publication, including booklets and teachers' notes. This involves writing texts and assembling photographic and other material to illustrate particular themes. Work will also include helping with educational projects and giving occasional talks, answering enquiries from the public and helping to prepare departmental exhibitions.

Candidates must have a degree (or equivalent), or have undertaken post graduate studies, in Egyptology and have a reading knowledge of French and German. Ability to write clearly and simply is essential.

Salary will be fixed in accordance with the civil service rules and regulations commensurate with qualification and experience of the candidates. Upon satisfactory result of the interview, offer will be made by the interview board straightaway.

Applications addressed to the Head of the Bureau of the British Museum, 6, Bloomsbury Square, London WC1A 3JF, should be submitted by 15 February 1981. The date for interview will be announced through the local daily newspapers.

THE AUDITOR GENERAL S.P.L.A.J. Tripoli, P.O. Box 2479.

PRODUCTION CONTROLLER

and Assistant to Technical Director required by family company manufacturing instruments for the Printing and Surface Coating Industries from a rural base near Cambridge.

Our client offers a starting salary around £5,000, bonus, company car, moving expenses etc. Further particulars from the undersigned on receipt of S.A.E. at least 9" x 4"

J. Snowden Esq., Senior Consultant, Broom Barn, Constructions, 44 High Street, Dereham, Norfolk NR11 4HU.

LEGAL EDITORIAL ASSISTANT REQUIRED FOR THE LAW REPORTS

Editor requires P/A for interviewing and editing work of responsible nature in which accuracy is essential. Audio typing experience necessary. Possibility of training in use of word processor. 9.30 a.m. to 5 p.m. and shorter hours during late vacancies. £4,000 to start. Phone Margaret Edwards, 01-242 4248.

ADMINISTRATIVE DIRECTOR

For expanding private security company. Very high remuneration plus a company car. Possible equity participation. PLEASE SEND FULL C.V. TO

BOX NO. 2385 F, The Times.

HIGHLAND HOTEL

Within comfortable reach of Glasgow, Highland Hotel is a well known and well established hotel with small seasonal country hotel as its core. Anxious to achieve a new level of excellence, the hotel is seeking a new General Manager. The successful candidate will be responsible for the overall management of the hotel, including the development of new business, the improvement of service standards, and the achievement of financial targets. The successful candidate will be expected to spend up to three months a year abroad on sales and promotion trips.

Please apply in writing with a C.V. to the Sales Director, Edward Arnold (Publishers) Ltd., 41 Bedford Square, London WC1B 3DD.

STRUCTURAL AND CIVIL ENGINEERS SEEK

NEW PARTNERS

Long established and well known firm. Medium size with excellent reputation. Located South of London seeks

Associates in preferred age 40's with proven Business Development and/or General Management ability to become Partner within 2 years, Senior Partner possible within 5 years, to further the Firm's Plans for Growth and Diversification Home and Overseas.

If interested telephone:

Sarah Harrison, 01-930 6404
Ontario House, London, SW1.

who will arrange for you to meet the Firm's Consultant. Strict confidence.

CHARITY FUND-RAISER

The Housing Associations Charitable Trust, one of the largest housing charities in the U.K., will shortly be appointing a full-time fund-raising officer. The successful candidate will be responsible for the development and implementation of the Trust's fund-raising strategy. The successful candidate will be expected to spend up to three months a year abroad on sales and promotion trips.

The person appointed must have wide experience in the fund-raising field and, in particular, experience in successfully raising one or more local fund-raising campaigns for a specific project. Housing experience is an advantage but not essential.

Write with C.V. to The Director, Housing Associations Charitable Trust, 30-32 Southampton St., London, WC2E 7JW, before 10th February, 1981.

UNIVERSITY APPOINTMENTS

University of Keele CHAIR OF GERMAN

Applications invited to fill Chair of German to be based on Keele University. The successful candidate will be responsible for the development and implementation of the Trust's fund-raising strategy. The successful candidate will be expected to spend up to three months a year abroad on sales and promotion trips.

Further particulars apply to the University of Keele, 150 Victoria Road, Keele, Cheshire ST5 5BG. Applications should be returned by 20th February, 1981.

PUBLIC AND EDUCATIONAL APPOINTMENTS

University of London CASSEL CHAIR OF ECONOMICS WITH SPECIAL REFERENCE TO MONEY AND BANKING TENABLE AT THE LONDON SCHOOL OF ECONOMICS AND POLITICAL SCIENCE

The Senate invites applications for the Cassel Chair of Economics with special reference to money and banking, tenable at the London School of Economics and Political Science. The successful candidate will be responsible for the development and implementation of the Trust's fund-raising strategy. The successful candidate will be expected to spend up to three months a year abroad on sales and promotion trips.

Further particulars apply to the University of London, 100 Brook Street, London, W1A 1AA. Applications should be returned by 20th February, 1981.

Secretarial and Non-secretarial Appointments also on page 18

SECRETARIAL

LEGAL AUDIO SECRETARY for a small, busy and progressive firm of solicitors. The successful candidate will be responsible for the development and implementation of the Trust's fund-raising strategy. The successful candidate will be expected to spend up to three months a year abroad on sales and promotion trips.

MEDICAL SECRETARY/TYPIST for Research Reports. Knowledge of European Union and P.E.U. essential. All round job in small firm. L.V.A. telephone 01-637 6021. (No agencies please.)

SECRETARY/P.A. required for the Headmaster of a girls' Public School. The successful candidate will be responsible for the development and implementation of the Trust's fund-raising strategy. The successful candidate will be expected to spend up to three months a year abroad on sales and promotion trips.

PROFESSIONAL PARTNER, A.I.C., needs exceptional P.A. Secretary until the Spring. Salary and conditions negotiable. Call James, 01-583 7096.

TEMPTING TIMES

NEW HORIZONS are always interested in new recruits. The successful candidate will be responsible for the development and implementation of the Trust's fund-raising strategy. The successful candidate will be expected to spend up to three months a year abroad on sales and promotion trips.

COVENT GARDEN BUREAU needs the best talents for the best salaries. Call James, 01-583 7096.

PART-TIME VACANCIES

THE MARKETING DIRECTOR of a China (Taiwan) porcelain and fine china company needs a P.A. who can accept responsibility and cope with administrative tasks and a very little sales. The successful candidate will be responsible for the development and implementation of the Trust's fund-raising strategy. The successful candidate will be expected to spend up to three months a year abroad on sales and promotion trips.

SENIOR SECRETARIES Recruitment Consultants, 175 NEW BOND STREET, W1 0DP. 01-583 7096.

RECEPTIONIST / TYPIST / Bookkeeper required for a small firm. The successful candidate will be responsible for the development and implementation of the Trust's fund-raising strategy. The successful candidate will be expected to spend up to three months a year abroad on sales and promotion trips.

AFRICA RESEARCH LTD. requires experienced part-time P.A. for sales on commission basis. Phone 01-583 7096.

SECRETARIAL

YOUNG SEC. (NO S/H) - £5,000

An unusual opportunity to work with a wide variety of senior executives, organising meetings and typing highly confidential material. If you are intelligent, presentable, understanding, discreet and enjoy typing, this is for you. Phone Kate Connery.

ALBEMARLE APPOINTMENTS 01-493 6080

PUBLIC NOTICES

LOST CERTIFICATE. It is proposed to issue a new Certificate to replace the one lost. The successful candidate will be responsible for the development and implementation of the Trust's fund-raising strategy. The successful candidate will be expected to spend up to three months a year abroad on sales and promotion trips.

Land Certificate. The successful candidate will be responsible for the development and implementation of the Trust's fund-raising strategy. The successful candidate will be expected to spend up to three months a year abroad on sales and promotion trips.

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Land Certificate. The successful candidate will be responsible for the development and implementation of the Trust's fund-raising strategy. The successful candidate will be expected to spend up to three months a year abroad on sales and promotion trips.

CHARITY COMMISSION

Scheme for the provision of the Charity Commission. The successful candidate will be responsible for the development and implementation of the Trust's fund-raising strategy. The successful candidate will be expected to spend up to three months a year abroad on sales and promotion trips.

Public and Educational Appointments. The successful candidate will be responsible for the development and implementation of the Trust's fund-raising strategy. The successful candidate will be expected to spend up to three months a year abroad on sales and promotion trips.

University of Glasgow Administrative Data

Processing Group DATA PROCESSING CONTROLLER. The successful candidate will be responsible for the development and implementation of the Trust's fund-raising strategy. The successful candidate will be expected to spend up to three months a year abroad on sales and promotion trips.

Applications are invited from graduates or other suitably qualified persons for the position of Data Processing Controller. The successful candidate will be responsible for the development and implementation of the Trust's fund-raising strategy. The successful candidate will be expected to spend up to three months a year abroad on sales and promotion trips.

Further particulars apply to the University of Glasgow, 100 Brook Street, London, W1A 1AA. Applications should be returned by 20th February, 1981.

MUSIC/Recording Teacher (Full Time) required Central London

Details 01-583 7096.

Senior Secretaries...

Overseas Personnel: W.1

...We're not called 'the energy company' for nothing, because...

Not only... are we the British operation of one of the world's largest producers and marketers of energy - including oil, gas, coal, chemicals and uranium - employing over 40,000 people in 20+ countries... but also because we can make full use of YOUR energy in handling a group of 3,000 expatriate professionals...

Your job as Secretary to our Manager, Expatriate Employee Relations will be to handle a heavy, confidential workload, administering the company, legislative and personnel requirements

of this highly mobile and demanding group of overseas staff. To cope with and enjoy this challenge, you must be 25+, numerate, with minimum 90/50 speeds and at least 2 years' secretarial experience at management level, not necessarily in Personnel. Your personality must also be the type to thrive under pressure and with contact at all levels of our company. Prospects are excellent. Your salary will be c.£5,600, plus excellent company benefits including free staff restaurant, interest-free s/t loan, non-contributory pension and more.

For more information and an application form, please phone Valery Slacke (Mrs.), Personnel Officer, Continental Oil Company Limited, Park House, 116 Park Street, London W1Y 4NN. Tel: 01-493 1235, ext. 3156.

conoco
CONTINENTAL OIL CO. LTD.

PER executive secretaries

HYDE PARK CORNER

This is an ideal post for a Senior Secretary who is completely confident of their shorthand/typing skills. As Secretary to a Director you will be part of an enthusiastic team dealing with the fascinating world of International Civil Engineering. You will probably be in your 20's or early 30's with a mature, businesslike attitude.

Your own office, pension scheme, 45p per day LV's, 4 weeks' holiday, salary plus bonus up to £7,000 p.a.

Contact Moira McCombie-Furner on 01-235 9984

LINCOLN'S INN FIELDS

This is a particularly satisfying vacancy for a Secretary who understands the importance that good secretarial and administrative support plays in the life of a top executive.

The Finance Director of an international group (also a Board Member) relies heavily on his P.A./Secretary who, in addition to good shorthand and typing skills (120/80) will compose own correspondence, ensure deadlines are met, attend Board Meetings and maintain continuity of business in Director's absence.

Our Clients require "O" level standard maths and English, some previous experience within a financial setting and the ability to deal with a wide range of personnel. There is a high level of responsibility and confidentiality. Age 25-35. Salary £6,150 plus very good benefits including 75p per day LV's, season ticket loan, 23 days holiday.

Contact Dawn Sheeri on 01-235 9984
4-5 GROSVENOR PLACE, HYDE PARK CORNER, LONDON, SW1X 7SB

KUWAIT P.A. SECRETARY

This is a responsible senior position offering an attractive tax free salary (£9,000-£10,000 p.a.). Furnished accommodation, 4 weeks' holiday and return fares. The position is P.A. Secretary to the Chairman/Principal partner. Only senior experienced persons will be considered. Please reply in writing enclosing detailed C.V. and telephone number to:

S.P.N.-PACE
Consulting Engineers,
35-37 Grosvenor Gardens, London SW1 W0B1

SECRETARY-WEST END

c.£7,000

The Chief Executive of a new company to be established by a major European Group in London requires a first-class Secretary. The requirement is for a person who has initiative, tact, good organising ability, a steady nerve, and is fundamentally reliable. The job will involve assisting in the establishment of this new operation and ongoing administrative responsibilities in addition to traditional secretarial duties. This is an important position and it will be exciting, therefore previous experience of Secretarial work at senior level including P.A. and administrative duties will be a prerequisite. Please send a detailed CV to S.T.C. International, Collett House, 52 Piccadilly, W.1

P.A. PERSONNEL

£7,000

You will be P.A. to the Personnel Director of an internationally famous company and, as such, will have a full range of personal responsibilities in addition to secretarial (80 w.m./h). If you have previous experience, are numerate, aged 23 to 32 and can communicate with high level of responsibility, you will enjoy excellent benefits.

SENIOR SECRETARIES
Recruitment Consultants
173 New Bond Street W1Y 9PB
01-493 0652-01-493 5907

MARKETING EXECUTIVE

An exciting opportunity to join an international Publications Company in West London. Must have previous sales experience in publicity or similar. Degree desirable. Knowledge of foreign languages a plus. A rewarding and challenging career for the motivated individual. Age, 20+. Attractive salary and benefits. Write in confidence with full CV to Antonio Fernandez, CV International, 11 Uxbridge Rd., Sheppards Bush London W12 8LH.

PROSPER IN P.R.
£5,400 + BENEFITS
Enter into Public Relations with this go-ahead company. You will be responsible for all aspects of the company's public relations and training. You will be based in London and will have access to all the company's resources. Call Diane Hills, 58-60 Houndsditch, E.C.3.

Graduate Secretary
01-621 0566

INTERESTED IN SPORT?

To £6,000

West End Co. involved with the world of sport. We are seeking a P.A. to assist in the management of our business. The ideal candidate will be a graduate with a degree in a relevant field, preferably sports. Salary £6,000 p.a. plus benefits. Please send CV to: 01-730 5148 (Consultants)

P.A. SECRETARY
Required for CHU based company. P.A. to assist in the management of our business. The ideal candidate will be a graduate with a degree in a relevant field, preferably sports. Salary £6,000 p.a. plus benefits. Please send CV to: 01-730 5148 (Consultants)

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La creme de la creme



SENIOR SECRETARY

Who enjoys the practical technicalities
c. £5,700

Administrative flair and a scientific leaning are equally important as impeccable shorthand/typing for this appointment with Guinness Overseas Ltd., the company handling Guinness' brewing interests world-wide.

As Secretary to the Technical Manager, you will yourself be involved in a wide range of administrative tasks of a technical nature - including processing lecture material, preparing visual aids and taking minutes - in addition to a challenging round of secretarial duties. And, since the Manager is frequently abroad, your initiative and decisiveness will be at a premium.

We are therefore looking for 'A' level standard education - ideally with a science bias - plus proven secretarial experience. Knowledge of French will be an advantage.

On top of the attractive starting salary you will qualify for the outstanding Guinness benefits package: 5 weeks' holiday; non-contributory pension; season ticket loan; free lunches; and superb sports and social facilities. Our pleasant offices are easily reached by bus, rail and underground.

For an application form telephone Miss A. P. Lloyd, Assistant Personnel Manager, on 01-965 7700, Ext. 3308, or write to:

GUINNESS
Arthur Guinness Son & Co. (Park Royal) Ltd.,
Park Royal Brewery, London NW10 7RR.

PA to Chief Executive

North West England c.£8,000

Complete involvement with a small management team covering a wide variety of business areas, will mean ample opportunity for further career development within this expanding leisure industry company with current profits in excess of £2m.

This executive position calls for candidates with 'A' levels, aged 25-45, possibly graduates, with exceptional administrative and secretarial skills, proven in at least two previous senior secretarial positions.

This is a tough job and only those working currently with a Chief Executive in commerce or industry who want real responsibility and can give total commitment should apply. In return the company offers significant rewards and job satisfaction in a vibrant and interesting environment. Interviews will be held in Manchester and London.

Male or female candidates please write or telephone R.D. Howgate, RSWP Recruitment, Fountain House, 81 Fountain Street, Manchester, M2 3EE. 061-236 7036

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Recruitment Consultants

GUINNESS

Arthur Guinness Son & Co. (Park Royal) Ltd.,
Park Royal Brewery, London NW10 7RR.

JUNIOR SECRETARY

PERSONNEL DEPARTMENT

AGE 18-24

A junior Secretary who preferably has work experience within a personnel department is required by an international firm of Chartered Accountants. The successful applicant will provide Secretarial Service to one of the personnel managers and will assist when required with secretarial service to other personnel staff. Duties will include: shorthand, typing (minimum speeds 100/45 w.p.m.), covering of telephones, reception of applicants, filing and admin. work. Intelligence, initiative and a good telephone manner are essential. The office is situated near to Liverpool St. and Moorgate stations. Company benefits include LV's, subsidised restaurant and annual season ticket loan. For an application form please telephone Mrs. Fergus or Mrs. Deverill on:

01-628 6926

WORK IN GERMANY

A leading International company in the packing industry is looking for a senior bi-lingual Secretary. Fluent English and German. The position is that of Secretary to Managing Director and is based near Dusseldorf, West Germany.

The work is interesting and varied and requires someone with above average skills in audio typing. Shorthand is an advantage but not essential.

Terms and conditions of employment are excellent and accommodation assistance will be given. The contract will be reviewed after one year.

Please send C.V. to Mr. G. R. Salthouse, Vice-President Administration, Signode Europa, Ringway House, Kelvin Road, Newbury RG13 2BD.

P.A. SECRETARY

OVER 30

needed urgently for Works Director of fast expanding manufacturing company in East London. Interesting and varied position requiring complete involvement. Applicants must have good all-round secretarial/administrative skills, a pleasant personality and be able to talk and mix at all levels. Car owner essential. Salary £6,000 p.a. Please telephone Mrs Wilson on 01-887 4857 between the hours 9 a.m.-12.30 p.m. or 3 p.m.-6 p.m.

P.A. TO CHAIRMAN

£6,500 + fares

My client seeks a true P.A. to assist in the management of their business. The ideal candidate will be a graduate with a degree in a relevant field, preferably sports. Salary £6,000 p.a. plus benefits. Please send CV to: 01-730 5148 (Consultants)

NEW HORIZONS

Recruitment Consultants
Telephone 01-584 4223

£5,100 + EXCELLENT BENEFITS

If you would like an interesting and varied job involving a wide range of responsibilities, then this is the opportunity for you. The successful candidate will be a graduate with a degree in a relevant field, preferably sports. Salary £6,000 p.a. plus benefits. Please send CV to: 01-730 5148 (Consultants)

SECRETARY-SW1

Chairman of public company requires well-educated Secretary. Salary £5,500 per annum. Hours 10 till 5 Wednesday afternoon free. Apply to:

A. Cohen & Company, 8, Waterloo Place, London SW1Y 4AH or phone 01-930 6933

SECRETARY (19-25)

Conscientious with good shorthand for young partners of small, Mayfair, estate agency, pleasant, informal atmosphere. £5,500 + bonus. TELEPHONE SINGINE ON

PA to Chief Executive

North West England c.£8,000

Complete involvement with a small management team covering a wide variety of business areas, will mean ample opportunity for further career development within this expanding leisure industry company with current profits in excess of £2m.

This executive position calls for candidates with 'A' levels, aged 25-45, possibly graduates, with exceptional administrative and secretarial skills, proven in at least two previous senior secretarial positions.

This is a tough job and only those working currently with a Chief Executive in commerce or industry who want real responsibility and can give total commitment should apply. In return the company offers significant rewards and job satisfaction in a vibrant and interesting environment. Interviews will be held in Manchester and London.

Male or female candidates please write or telephone R.D. Howgate, RSWP Recruitment, Fountain House, 81 Fountain Street, Manchester, M2 3EE. 061-236 7036

Crone Conkall
Recruitment Consultants

A SENIOR SECRETARY

Following our recent acquisition of Gaia Cosmetics and Fragrances Ltd, we need a secretary, accustomed to operating at senior management levels of an international organisation, to work with the General Manager of this new Company. This position will offer exceptional job satisfaction to someone able to take initiative, improvise as necessary in a developing situation who also has a positive, friendly personality. We would expect that anyone able to enjoy this challenge would be over 25 years, have a good academic background and of course possess the full range of secretarial skills. If this opportunity appeals to you, please send your CV to me, Mrs Joan Leslie, Personnel Manager-UK Group.

MAX FACTOR LTD.,
P.O. Box 3AH
16 Old Bond St, London W1A 3AH
or telephone TODAY at 0202 25541 or Friday 16th Jan at 01-493 6720.

N.N.E.B.

PA/SECRETARY TO CHIEF EXECUTIVE

c. £7,000

This is a tough job and to do it you would need the personality and experience to stay organised under pressure, to expect results and enjoy the responsibility of handling. The work involves running a small central office, servicing the various departments, maintaining a nationwide network of contacts with colleges, taking overall responsibility for the administration of a national examination-and above all the thankless task of keeping the organisation running smoothly.

If you think you're right for the job, send a c.v. to:

Michael Stanton, Chief Executive
NNB
Argyle House,
29/31 Euston Road, N.W.1
and then ring to arrange an informal interview: 837 5458

INTERNATIONAL PUBLISHING

£6,500+

Secretary, 25-40, required for Managing Director of International Publishers based in London. The company is new and offers interesting job to competent applicant with first class shorthand and typing, up-to-date office practices and a flair for administration.

Apply Joseph Fleming,
104 Great Russell Street,
London W.C.1. Tel. 631 4272.

ADVERTISING ACUMEN

£6,000 neg.

We are a large international advertising group in Mayfair and are seeking an experienced Secretary/PA to work for the Managing Director of one of our group companies. Excellent secretarial and administrative skills are essential but flexibility, initiative and a definite advantage. We offer a lively working environment, subsidised restaurant and wine bar and to shop. For further details please tel. Helen Brant, 429 9496.

Junior Secretary

Age 18 + West End c. £4,800

If you have completed your secondary education and possess excellent shorthand and typing skills, this is an excellent opportunity for you. The successful candidate will be a graduate with a degree in a relevant field, preferably sports. Salary £6,000 p.a. plus benefits. Please send CV to: 01-730 5148 (Consultants)

SECRETARY (19-25)

Conscientious with good shorthand for young partners of small, Mayfair, estate agency, pleasant, informal atmosphere. £5,500 + bonus. TELEPHONE SINGINE ON

SECRETARY/PA TO FINANCIAL DIRECTOR

£6,000-£6,500

AMERICAN OILFIELD SUPPLY COMPANY WITH WORLD-WIDE INTERESTS

Being an international company the Financial Director travels frequently and therefore needs a responsible and competent P.A. who can deal with correspondence and run things in his absence. The person we are looking for will be in their late 20's with good secretarial experience and the discretion to deal with confidential matters. Shorthand-typing is essential and audio experience an advantage. Varied responsibilities with the opportunity to work on our own initiative as part of a close-knit team. Good working conditions in modern offices. Four weeks' holiday.

Applications in strict confidence, under reference SPA1252/TT, will be forwarded unopened to our Client, unless you list companies to which they should not be sent in a covering letter marked for the attention of the Security Manager.

CAMPBELL-JOHNSTON RECRUITMENT ADVERTISING LIMITED,
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DAIMLER DOUBLE SIX SERIES III BRAND NEW

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مكتبة من الأص

PERSONAL CHOICE

Broadcasting Guide

Edited by Peter Daville

TELEVISION

BBC 1

12.45 pm News and weather forecast.
1.00 Peabody M at One: Today's edition includes the regular film spot by Tony Billow.
1.45 Bod: The story of Bod and the Dog (r). Closedowns at 2.00.
3.55 Play School: Home Heine's story tonight. She has also done the illustrations. Can also be seen on BBC 2 at 1.00.
4.20 Laurel and Hardy: cartoon. Can't Keep a Secret Agent. The flesh and blood Laurel and Hardy can be seen far better effect on BBC 2 at 5.40.
4.25 Jackanory: Bernard Holley continues his readings from Joan Redington's Jonny Briggs and the Great Rascal. Today's episode is of this 17-part serialisation of the story of a Swiss orphan girl.
5.00 John Craven's Newground, 5.15 Blue Peter, 5.25 News, 5.30 Simon Gordon, Sarah Greene and Peter Duncan, 5.35 Your the Ensign: Oliver Postgate's story The Looney with Peter Philma's illustrations.

BBC 2

11.00 Play School: The same as BBC 1, 3.55. Closedowns at 11.25.
4.25 Open University: Prospect: a programme for students and tutors of A101. 4.50 The pre-school child: give and take. 5.15 5101 preparatory maths: numbers.
5.40 Laurel and Hardy: Perfect Day (1929) The Laurels and the Hardy set out, by car, for a picnic. They get stuck, however, get very far with Edgar Kennedy.
6.00 Music-Hall Greats: Let George Do It (1940) Wartime comedy with George Formby and Phyllis Calvert. The Lancashire comedian and singer is mistaken for a secret agent with predictable but enjoyable results. Director: Marcel Varnel. (See Personal Choice).
7.20 Cartoon: Tales from Hoffmann-The Palm Court Orchestra (r).
7.25 When the Bough Breaks: A

health visitor, a lawyer and a social worker discuss the legal position of parents who find themselves suspected of child abuse.
7.40 News: with subtitles for the hard of hearing. Also, weather forecast.
7.55 Writers and Places: First in a new series in which well-known authors talk about the effect their environment had on them. Tonight, Anthony Burgess returns to Malaysia. (See Personal Choice).
8.30 Russell Harty: Live from Manchester. Mr Harty's guests are Malcolm Allison, Rosalie David who unwraps mummies, and Leslie Carter who has written a book which encourages young people to learn about music.
9.00 The Little World of Don Camillo: Second in this TV adaptation of the Guescini tales about a warring priest and communist mayor in the Po valley...

Regions

SE 1 VARIATIONS: BBC 1, 12.45 pm News and weather forecast. 1.00 Peabody M at One. 1.45 Bod. 3.55 Play School. 4.20 Laurel and Hardy. 4.25 Jackanory. 5.00 John Craven's Newground. 5.15 Blue Peter. 5.25 News. 5.30 Simon Gordon. 5.35 Your the Ensign. 6.00 Music-Hall Greats. 7.20 Cartoon. 7.25 When the Bough Breaks. A health visitor, a lawyer and a social worker discuss the legal position of parents who find themselves suspected of child abuse. 7.40 News. 7.55 Writers and Places. 8.30 Russell Harty. 9.00 The Little World of Don Camillo. 9.30 Simon Gordon. 9.35 Your the Ensign. 10.00 John Craven's Newground. 10.15 Blue Peter. 10.25 News. 10.30 Simon Gordon. 10.35 Your the Ensign. 11.00 Play School. 11.25 Closedowns.

THAMES

9.30 Masterbuilders: The men who designed palaces for royalty. 9.55 Film: Edward My Son (1951) Stanley, a young boy, is taken to a boarding school. The film is a story of a boy's life. 10.15 News. 10.30 Simon Gordon. 10.35 Your the Ensign. 11.00 Play School. 11.25 Closedowns.

10.15 News. 10.30 Simon Gordon. 10.35 Your the Ensign. 11.00 Play School. 11.25 Closedowns.

10.15 News. 10.30 Simon Gordon. 10.35 Your the Ensign. 11.00 Play School. 11.25 Closedowns.

Radio 4

6.00 am News Briefing.
6.10 Farming Today.
6.30 Today.
7.00, 8.00 News.
7.30, 8.30 Headlines.
9.00 News.
9.15 Yesterday in Parliament.
9.30 What Price Astrology?
9.30 The Living World.
10.00 News.
10.05 In Italy.
10.10 Daily Service.
10.15 Story: Sounds of the Town, by Robert Nisbet.
11.00 News.
11.05 Analyst.
11.50 Enigma Within.
12.00 News.
12.02 pm You and Yours.
12.05 News.
12.10 News.
12.15 The World at One.
1.00 The Archers.
2.00 News.
2.05 Lord Jim's Hour.
3.00 News.
3.02 Play: Bankers, by Anita Brownson. (See Personal Choice).
4.00 Fritz Spiegler's Musical.
4.15 Bookshelf.
4.45 There Came Both Mist and Snow (9).
5.00 PM.
5.05 News.
5.30 Any Answers?
6.00 News.
6.05 The Archers.
6.20 Time for Verse.
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